Solidarity clinches premiership

WARSAW (R) — President Wojciech Jaruzeiski prepared Friday to somewhat a Solidarity leader as Poland's prime minister, and a Solidarity leading rule. Solidarity's official newspaper said Jaruzeiski was to recommend Tadeusz Mazowicki, a Roman Cafholic intellectual and dominated by non-communist for the first time in 45 years. Jaruzeiski met mists for the first time in 45 years. Jarazelski met dominated by non-communists for the first time in 45 years. Jaruzelski met Mazowiecki Friday. Walesa himself was overwhelmingly backed as prime-power. But the 45-year-old shipyard electrician promptly declined the post the government but and the government itself. "This is definitely the final null in the coffin of the Constant said." This is definitely the final null in the coffin of the Constant said. "This is seen as something outdated. It is the end of the whole concept."



CBJ lowers dollar rate

AMMAN (Petra) - The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has announced its readiness to supply commercial banks and licensed financial companies with foreign exchange at 730 fits to the dollar to be sold to the public at the rate of 735 fils without charging any exchange commission, effective Aug. 19, 1989. A CBJ statement issued Friday said the foreign currency will be used to meet various needs which were not mentioned in the list of basic and subsidised commodities and for students' expenditures studying abroad. The decision comes in light of the CBJ follow-up on foreign currency markets and in implementation of the policy designed to attain

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

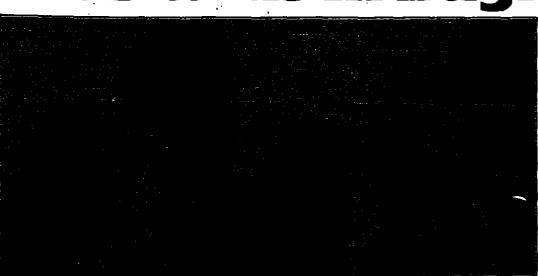
King holds talks in Baghdad

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with Agency dispatches

BAGHDAD - His **Majesty King Hussein** held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein here Friday with the main focus on the situation in Lebanon.

The Jordan News Agency, Pet-ra, said the King and the Iraqi leader held a round of talks immediately after the King's arrival in Baghdad earlier in the day. The talks covered the latest developments in the region, bilateral relations and issues related to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) — Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen — and a forth-coming meeting of the ACC foreign ministers, it said.

In the context of Lebanon, the two leaders emphasised "the historical responsibility of the Arab



His Majesty King Hussein with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad Friday

Nation towards Lebanon and the necessity to review it on the pan-Arab national level," Petra

The King is believed to be trying to find a common ground between Iraq and Syria in the stand-off in Lebanon, where Damascus supports the civilian government of Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss while ity Council call for a ceasefire.

Iraq backs a rival military cabinet Michel Aoun. Reports from Beirut indicated that artillery battles were continuing between Syrian troops and allied Lebanese militiamen on the one hand and forces loyal to Aoun and rightist militiamen on the other despite a call by the United Nations Secur-

Reports also said that a triparheaded by army commander tite Arab panel made up of Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Morocco have revived its mediation bid and had drawn up a list of "refreshing ideas" to settle the Lebanese conflict.

The King is accompanied on the visit by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Chief Thougan Al Hindawi, the Friday or early Saturday.

Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

An officially unconfirmed re-port by the Associated Press said the King and the Iraqi President also held a round of talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Baghdad. Arafat, who arrived in Baghdad Thursday, was expected to visit Amman for talks with the King and to reopen offices of the Palestine National Fund (PNF).

In the Baghdad talks the three leaders were to review the "recent escalation of violence in Lebanon and moves by the Arab countries to bring an end to the bloodletting and to help solve the Lebanese crisis," said Azzam Al Ahmad, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative in Baghdad.

At Jordan Times press time, there was no confirmation by Petra of a tripartite meeting in Baghdad and it was not known whether Arafat would come to Jordan. The King's visit to Baghdad was described by Petra as a short working visit, indicating that he could return home late

Israeli soldiers push and pull a Palestinian after arresting bim in the occupied West Bank.

Israel enforces new rules on Arab access from Gaza

(Agencies) - Both Israelis and Palestinians claimed victory Friday as the occupation army imposed tough restrictions on Arabs travelling from the occupied Gaza Strip to Israel.

Israeli authorities claimed about 6,000 people crossed into Israel, ignoring a call by underground Palestinian leaders to boycott work in Israel to protest against new plastic identification

But Palestinians estimated a maximum of 1,000 people стоssed.

They said there were far fewer cars than normal entering Israel and that most carried no passen-

The real test comes Sunday. the first day of the new card system when traffic of up to

25,000 people would be normal. Traffic into Israel was light from both Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

Israeli soldiers arrested two masked Arab youths near the Erez crossing into Israel who were trying to block workers from going to Israel, the army

Near Khan Yunis, a small boy was injured by flying glass when

Bankers who work in Israel.

masked youths stoned the car in which he was riding, apparently to disrupt traffic to Israel. Palestinian reporters said. The child was not seriously hurt. Graffiti in Gaza City had called

for a two-week strike starting Friday to protest the new ID cards, and a leaflet from the uprising's leaders urged a oneweek sympathy strike by West

Gazan workers asked about the cards Friday said they felt caught between the Israeli occupation authorities and the uprising's popular committees, whose enforcers have been seizing the

cards to disrupt the system. Saber Abu Sabaan, a 40-yearold father of 10 children, said he had been working in Israel for years but refused to get the new card, only to see it taken away by uprising activists.

feeding my kids does not mean l

love Israel," he said. Israeli officials say the card system is intended to prevent those with "criminal or security"

records from entering Israel. Palestinians say the system is a further attempt by Israel to quell the revolt against occupation by putting an economic squeeze on Gaza, where poverty is wide-

spread and few jobs are available. Police said, meanwhile, that two ultra-orthodox Jews, one an American and the other a Swiss. were arrested at Ben Gurion airport while trying to bring in \$1.25 million, and Israeli news reports

said police suspected the money was to finance the Palestinian uprising. Yaacov Shoval, a police spokesman, said the two were arrested on suspicion of bringing

in the money for illegal purposes, but he would not say whether the case was linked to the uprising. The Maariv daily said police

were investigating whether the two were connected to a group of ultra-orthodox non-Zionist Jews accused in the past of fostering the revolt. The group pelieves the creation of the state of Israel is against God's will.

The suspects were identified as Dov Tarabello, a U.S. citizea. and Isador Kovalski, a Swiss, Their hometowns were not given.

A parked car was set ablaze in occupied Jerusalem in the latest of a series of arson attacks that have become a new tactic of the uprising. Police said the auto was the ninth vehicle set aftire in the city this week. No one was injured in any of the incidents.

A group of Palestinian and doctors have accused Israel of denying vital health care in the Gaza Strip.

The chairwoman of the Association of Israeli and Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights told Reuters Thursday the lack of staff and equipment was partly a budgetary problem.

But chairwoman Dr. Rouchama Marton said it was mainly a deliberate policy.

"If it is not the policy, the Israeli government would permit money or medical equipment to be donated to the Gaza Strip... she said.

"Usually they hardly give any permission to things like that." An Israeli reservist soldier distressed over an army investigation of his role in the beating death of a Gazan shot himself to death with a burst of automatic machine gun fire, Israeli press

reports said Friday. Yariv Bar-Yosef, 25, shot himself in the head with his Uzi submachine gun in the early morning hours Thursday. He left behind a suicide note explaining

Bar-Yosef was among soldiers being investigated by military police in connection with the beating death of an Arab

Sharif Zaid: Economic measures bearing fruit AMMAN (J.T.) - The econo-"The aid presented by Arab in which the critic seeks the ing this part of debt," he noted.

mic and financial measures designed to rectify the economic situation and restore stability to the dinar which the Jordanian government adopted since its formation have begun to bear fruit and attain their objectives, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker said Friday.
In a televised interview in the

weekly programme "Current Affairs" carried by Jordan Television, the prime minister said that the government's first priority was to reschedule foreign debts. "We held negotiations through the Paris Club with the countries that extended loans used in development projects and armament

Noting that a meeting will be held with creditor commercial

banks through the London Club, the prime minister said that when the government assumed responsibility in April, "the reserves of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) were very little, but following the recent measures the reserves rose to over \$400 million." The government's plans concentrated on tackling financial problems through building reserves of foreign currency in the

CBJ, he said. The prime minister paid tribute to the aid the Arab countries gave to Jordan, foremost of whom was Saudi Arabia and

brothers is valuable. We highly appreciate this but we have to live within our capabilities and national income since foreign aid will not last for ever," the prime minister said. Kuwait, he continued, will initiate a meetamong the central hanks governors of the Gulf countries

and Jordan so as to reach agree-

ment about keeping a deposit in

the CBJ in order to help build

reserves and stabilise the dinar's rate of exchange. On freedom of expression and press, the prime minister said: "We believe in freedom provided it is responsible and it concentrates on the country's welfare and stability. We also country's benefit and the peo-He said that the government

was also seeking private sector contribution in the ownership of press, hotel, and tourism establishments.

Touching on parliamentary elections and the national charter, the prime minister said that the government had set the date of election in accordance with His Majesty the King's letter of designation. The King, he said, will form a committee from various political trends in the country to draft the national

On the establishment of pri-

minister said that his government's decision was designed to absorb the increasing number of students willing to attend universities.

The prime minister called on the superpowers to pressure Israel so as to respond to the will of the world in general and the Palestinian people in particular and attain just peace in the region. He also noted that Jordan supports an independent Lebanon in which a national government practices full control of all the Lebanese soil. He said that Jordan supports every Arab or international effort to attain peace. security and stability in

Ghandour resigns, named royal advisor

Husseln has accepted the resignation of Royal Jordanian (RJ) Chairman and Chief Executive Ali Ghandour and named him his first adviser on svintion and tourism affairs, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported Friday. No immediate successor to our at the RJ post was named. The King also conferred upon handour the Renaissance Medal of

in a message he sent to Ghandour accepting the resignation, the King said that he had received the RJ chairman's request to be relieved of his duties and expressed full under-standing of Ghandour's right to a rest after 27 years of dedicated work for

the national carrier.

The King highlighted two facts that he felt "necessary to help in compre-bending the role of RJ and its prog-

The King pointed out that since Jordan is mainly an inland country, with Agaba as its only sen outlet, air transport is the Kingdom's major means for communication with the outside world.

"In this context, I point out this means was provided, in the first years of my responsibility, by companies carrying Jordan's name while in fact they were equipped with foreign acroplanes and crews," the King said.
"These companies used to take the aircraft that were put out of service on the international lines and take advantage of Jordan's name and rights to continue facilitating these lines, and making material profit on Jordan's account, discreparding the country's needs and best interest, not caring to train Jordanians in this modern field, vital in the countries' lives and econo-

The King told Ghandour: "When I decided to rectify this abnormal situstion, I found you, 20 Arab seronsuites una, i found you, an Arab aeronautics engineer, enthusiastic and broad-minded, full of energy, willpower and always taking the initiative. So I entrusted you with the mission, thus spearbeating the blessed trip of the Royal Jordanian Africas 27 years



His Majesty also pointed out that today the salaries of RJ employees are today the same so it at enqueyees are double the paid-up capital of the airline, which employs over 5,000 Jordanians and offers bousing for most of them and that it operates most of them and that it operates flights with many points around the world competing with other airlines. Its international reputation puts it among the top airlines in the region and among the first well-known airlines, the King said. The various training facilities offered by RJ also training facilities offered by RJ also attract many Jordanian and Arab youth and the airlines technical workshops not only fulfills its own needs, shops not only tunnes as own needs, but also serves the region, he said. All these developments had tangible contributions from Ghandour, he added. "You have been honest and you have safegnarded what I have entrusted you with," the King told

The King made a reference to the aftermath of the 1967 war when the corporation's ficet and ground sta-tions incurred heavy losses as a result tions mearred neavy lesses as a result of direct bombing by Israeli jet fight-ers. And yet it rebounced to become a well-established national carrier not only on the regional but on the global level, be noted.

The King paid further tribute to Ghandour's efforts and wise planning over the years which enabled RJ to stand on its feet.

in his resignation letter. Ghandour volced thanks for the King's unwaver-ing support for the strike and his efforts to elevate it to the status of a renowned international airline. He said it was an homour to serve the abrine and be part of its progress and development. In the last 27 years, the (airline) has reached a position which gives pride to the country and its people," he said. The airline reached such a position without being a burden on the treasury, he added.

Arab panel said to revive mediation

Artillery duels rage in Beirut's northern front

and artillery battled across a strategic frontline north of Beirut Friday and Syria sent reinforcements to back its troops and allied Lebanese militias fighting forces loyal to army commander Michel Aoun, security sources

The Syrian and allied forces traded fire with troops of Aoun at Madfoun, the frontline separating the northern edge of the Lebanese Christian enclave from the Syrian-policed north, the

sources said. The fighting rocked an already fragile U.N.-backed ceasefire and a French diplomatic campaign to end five months of fighting that has killed 750 people and wound-

ed 3,000. Syria sent more reinforcements and soldiers to the Madfoun front, the sources said. The two foes clashed at the front Tuesday when some 300 Syrian soldiers backed by the tanks advanced onto an army checkpoint on a bridge 40 kilometres north of

the Lebanese capital. Meanwhile, three Arab states have revived attempts to bring peace to Lebanon with a plan calling for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, diplomatic sources said Friday.

They told Renters the Arab League committee of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria had given copies of the "national reconciliation charter," to several ambassadors, including those of the U.N. Security Council's five permanent members, in Rabat five days ago.

The plan envisages a ceasefire, revival of Lebanese sovereignty throughout the divided country, the renewal of constitutional authority and wide-ranging political reform, the sources said. The diplomatic sources said

BEIRUT (Agencies) - Tanks they regarded the proposed charter as a sound basis for ending 15 years of civil war, adding that Western states were likely to throw their weight behind the revival of the Arab League peace

Envoys from the three Arab states have shuttled back and forth between Beirut, Damascus and Baghdad in recent months but their mission ended in an announcement of failure last

The sources said the new plan called for the withdrawal of Israeli troops, who patrol a self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon, and urged a phased Syrian military pullout.

The charter also outlined a shift of executive power from the presidency to the cabinet, placing responsibility for policy in the hands of the prime minister and his ministers. The president would become a

symbol of national unity and would join the cabinet as a nonvoting member. He would be able to delay cabinet decrees for up to 30 days, but could not veto legislation.

Lebanon has had no president since parliament failed to elect a successor to outgoing president Amin Gemayel tast September. Under the new plan, cabinet decisions would be made by con-

possible, by a simple majority. Mobilisation for war, declaring a state of emergency, dissolving parliament and approving the budget were among key issues that would need a two-thirds cabinet majority, the sources

sensus, and when that was not

The charter proposed parliament should have 50 more members, making a total of 128 deputies. Parliamentarians would be appointed by the prime minis-

ters until elections could be held. Freedom of education would be assured and all militias and paramilitary groups disbanded, the sources added.

The charter proposes phasing out of Lebanon's current system of sharing parliamentary seats and top government positions among the various religious com-At present, the Christian

Maronite minority take the lion's share, while Muslim and nationalist groups have insisted on a greater say in government as a prerequisite for ending the slaughter that began in April,

Top jobs in the armed forces and civil administration would no longer be reserved for certain religious factions and parliamentary seats would gradually be divided between Muslims and Christians. The diplomatic sources said the

charter was the result of continuous attempts during May and June by the three Arab states envoys to find common ground between all parties. In Beirut and the mountains to

the east and south-east of the city, the warring factions took advantage of the second day of relative calm to fortify positions. security sources said. Beirut's independent Al Nahar

newspaper said the buildup sug-

gested that two sides appeared to

be preparing for a wide-scale French envoy Alain Decaux discussed with Aoun ways to enforce the U.N. ceasefire call which entails an end to tit-for-tat sea and land blockades, a main cause of the latest round of vio-

Rafsanjani assumes presidency demanding U.S. concessions

NICOSIA (R) - Iran's new leader Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has begun his presidency insisting on American concessions to end a decade of hostility before hostages in Lebanon are set free.

Rafsanjani, sworn in Thursday, was under pressure to take a radical line. Statements from Iran indicated that the radicals and those regarded as pragmatists were a long way from settling their differences.
"I have said many times that

if the United States expects us to help in the Lebanese issue. it should show in practice that it has stopped its hostile stand against us," Rafsanjani told Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who is apparently mediating in the hostage crisis.

"(Then) we will incline to

solve the issue." Rafsanjani said only hours after being sworn in as Iran's fourth presi-

Rafsanjani, keen to improve

ties with outside world and win help in solving Iran's pressing economic problems, did not mention the hostage crisis in his 30-minute inauguration speech. But the issue was raised by the radical son of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini,

Ahmad, who seemed to reject any cooperation whatsoever with Washington. The American president says that they are ready, with conditions, to solve the hostage problem together with Iran -

as if we are after meeting him and he is in a position to set conditions," Tehran Radio quoted Ahmad as saying. "Today the world is waiting

to see how our officials move after (Khomeini)," said Ahmad, who has no official position but carnes weight as the torch bearer of the avatol-

Economic hardship was the centrepiece of Rafsanjani's inauguration speech, in which he said ideology could not take precedence over bread-andbutter issues.

ah's views.

"Times are very different from the past. It is not right to safeguard the nation with the hungry, poor people marching forward and giving their life. It cannot go on like this."

Last week Rafsanjani said Iran would cooperate to free the Western hostages, believed to number 17, if Washington gave assurances it would release Iranian assets frozen a



Kabul accuses U.S. of supplying new rockets to Mujahedeen

KABUL (Agencies) — Afghanistan has accused the United States of supplying guerrillas with new rockets that explode in mid-air and shower down warheads that detonate on the ground.

"It is a long-range, U.S.-type missile and it's very strong and it can destroy very vast areas," Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said. "You can see the U.S. mark-

ings."
The United States has said it is providing the guerrillas with new weapons to counter what it says are shipments of new Soviet weapons to Afghanistan. Published reports say these include U.S.-designed cluster bombs and Spanish-made 120-mm mortars that can crater airport runways.

The guerrillas are trying to topple the Soviet-backed Kabul government with support mainly from the United States and Pakistan.

Amani also said the rebels fired 53 missiles, including the new U.S. rockets, at Kabul Tuesday night and early Wednesday.
One of the new rockets killed

five civlians and injured 23 others overnight in the former Sovietoccupied Mikrorayan housing complex near Kabul airport, now home to many government workers.

He said casualties were lew most people were because

asleep.
"But I can assure you that if they continue firing these new rockets, the people will suffer casualties and their hatred against the opponent groups and the United States of America will increase." Amani said.

Amani said the new rockets explode at some point in midair, sending 30 smallers explosives to the ground where they

explode. "Even its pieces have exploded sometimes after one hour (on the ground) without any touch," be

The Afghan government said 354 rockets hit Kabul in the last four weeks, killing 193 civilians and injuring more than 500

Most of the rockets were Egyptian-made Sakers, with a range of 20 to 40 kilometres, the government said. The guerrillas have claimed responsibility for some attacks, but not in recent days. The United States and the

Soviet Union have accused each other of escalating the arms race in the 11-year Afghan war. The United States says the

Soviets are shipping between \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion worth of military hardware to the Kabul government every year, nearly double the figure before the Feb. 15 Soviet pullout.

Last week the government said the Soviets were supplying Afghanistan with MiG-29 fighters and the latest Sukhoi 27 ground attack jets to be used against an alleged Pakistani attack. Pakistan has denied any direct involvement in the fighting.

The Afghan government has confounded Western predictions of a quick rebel victory and repulsed guerrilla attacks on several major cities in provinces bordering Pakistan, including Jalalabad. Elections rejected

The leader of an Iranian-back-

ed Afghan party has ruled out the possibility of holding elections in Mujahedeen-held territory in Afghanistan, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA)

reported. Avatollah Asef Mohseni, head of Afghanistan's Islamic movement Jamiat-e-Islami, which is one of the Shi'ite Muslim alliance's eight parties, made the comment in an interview with the English-language daily Tehran'

IRNA, reporting the interview, said Mohseni was responding to a proposal by Golbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the rival Sunni Muslim Hizb-e-Islami, for electing representatives to the Mujahedeen Shura or council.

The Shi'ite alliance rejects the election of a council that would act as an interim government until the communist regime is overthrown, because the majority Sunni alliance refuses to give them an equal share of seats.

The Sunnis' seven-party alliance is backed by neighbouring Pakistan.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said Mohseni refused to participate in the Shura on the grounds that "it is not adequately representative of opinion within the Iran-based grouping."
He told the Iranian daily the

elections would be "undemocratic and impractical under existing conditions" and suggested their postponement until the ruling regime is overthrown and the rebel groups are disarmed by the new government.

Mohseni rejected the possibil-

ity of holding talks with the pro-Moscow regime, saying his party will not be negotiating with any Communist government, but only with a representative military authority illicitly in occupation of

He also commented on an incident in which 30 field commanders and fighters from his move-ment were killed by members of Hekmatyar's party, saying "such incidents can only deal a big blow to the revolutionary movement in Afghanistan."

Mohseni called for a thorough investigation of the incident and punishment of its masterminds, according to IRNA.

Soviet casualties

A total of 13,833 Soviet soldiers died in the Afghan war, the Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda said Thursday in the most detailed breakdown yet of Soviet casualties.

A previous Soviet report put the death toll at 13,310, but the new higher figure included servicemen who died of illness and

Soviet forces pulled out of Afghanistan in February under an international peace accord, having been in the country since the 1979 military intervention.

Beirutis flee to South Lebanon Pravda, which provided yearbut hope to return and rebuild by-year totals, said 11,854 soldiers and 1,979 officers died in the war and 330 men, including 21 officers, were missing.
The newspaper said 1984 was

the most deadly year, when 2,343 soldiers, including 305 officers,

ing south to escape the battle for Beirut say they expect a long stay in Israeli-controlled territory but hope to return to rebuild their

Khalaf warns against slow peace effort Pelletreau had said the bases

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A senior Palestinian official has warned that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would face mounting internal opposition if its peace drive did not gather

The Palestinian people are beginning to doubt the sincerity of the path we have chosen and we will face difficulties inside the Palestinian circle," Salah Khalaf, a member of the Fatch's Central Committee, was quoted Thursday as telling the Saudi Arabian Al Madina newspaper.

Khalaf (Abu Iyad) said the opposition among the Palesti- ber by Washington after the nians to the PLO's peace policy PLO's peace initiative explictly was growing because of "Israel's recognised Israel, was held in stubborn stand and the American Tunis Monday. indifference.

Abu Iyad told the Abu Dhabi

plomats and the PLO was "extremely bad." Khalaf accused the American

side of introducing "sharp and threatening language" during the "They raised the same silly

proposals including the election plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip," he said. He was referring to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan for elections among the 1.7 million inhabitants of the occupied territories to provide a leadership for limited self-rule.

The fourth formal session of the dialogue, started last Decem-

Pelletreau, who was assigned to daily that the latest round of conduct the negotiations on the dialogue between American di- American side with PLO leaders

headquartered in Tunis, referred to "serious" discussions and the need for "hard decisions and careful diplomacy" to make it viable in progressing towards a Middle East settlement.

Chief PLO delegate Yasser Abed Rabbo said the discussions would continue "in the near fu-

Khalaf, second in command to PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Fateh, was unofficially involved in the dialogue earlier this year. The pro-Israeli lobby in Washington attacked his participation, saying he was linked to "terrorist" attacks against Americans.

Khalaf said the United States is "still being totally biased to the Israeli position," but said the d not rupture logue "even though it will be pretty useless if it continues in

for the dialogue were territory for peace, security and recognition for Israel and Palestinian political rights, but had not elaborated on those rights.

Turning to the recent Fatch congress also convened recently in Tunis for the first time in nine years, Khalaf said "only America concluded that Fateh conference was against peace.'

He was referring to the accent Fatch gave to "armed struggle" against Israel. He said that armed struggle was a right of the Palestinians until the Israeli occupation ended, a right that had never been renounced when the PLO renounced terrorism.

years." It was accented, he explained, Graziella Chbat fled east because of the need to differenti-Beirut with her husband and four ate with the uprising of the children Thursday before shelling Palestinian inhabitants under on both sides of Beirut's green occupation, who do not resort to line shattered a ceasefire called

by the United Nations Security Council.

BEIT YAHOUN, Lebanon

(Agencies) - Lebanese stream-

Contrary to Israeli army state-

ments that almost all the refugees

want to resettle in the Israeli-

declared border "security zone,"

none of several interviewed

Thursday said they would aban-

"You fear death at any time."

(But) it was very difficult for me

to leave. It's a city I like and want to return to," said Lina Beydoun,

But Beydoun was pessimistic

about a quick resolution of the

much longer. "It will be very

difficult. It will take 10, 20, 30

a student from west Beirut.

don Beirut permanently.

war-torn capital.

long as Beirut is like it is now," she said. Chbat and Beydoun were

fine, but I will stay here only as

among 250 Lebanese who crossed into the "security zone" at Beit Yahoun village.

Israeli military officials said some 6,000 had arrived in the past week after shelling intensified in the Beirut area.

They said more than 25,000 had fled to the border zone since March when fighting erupted in Beirut between the forces of army commander Michel Acun and Syria and its allies. More than 70 per cent are

Shi'ite Muslims rather than Christians whom Israel considers more friendly.' The Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army (SLA) vets the refugees to keep out hostile guerrillas or Muslim fundamentalists.

conflict.

"It will be a long time," she said, adding that rebuilding the shell-ravaged city would take New arrivals told the turnoil in Beirut — of cowering in bomb shelters, dashing to stores during rare hills in the shelling, getting water from pumps.

But nearly all refused to appor tion blame for the fighting. Most would not disclose their religion.

"They have shelled my apartment," said Aida Awada, with-"Being under Israeli control is out saving who "they" were.

know. They don't send messages with the shells." Nadr Abdaliah, a 13-year-old

student, said: "It doesn't matter who the next president will be, Christian or Muslim, as long as he is faithful to Lebanese people of

all religions." Most recent arrivals in the 'security zone" moved in with relatives, some own vacation homes in the area while others chose the region because of its relative tranquility.

Adnan Bazzi, a social worker in his mid-30s, said he and his relatives have recently made at least 10 trips to Beirut and back, checking if their Beirut house was damaged in the shelling.
"Every day shells are falling on our houses," he said. "I have

never seen so much shelling, and it continues into the night. Some shells even pierce the underground (bomb shelters)." Some jof the fugitives, whose

Beirut homes were destroyed and where to go in the "security zone," settle in abandoned houses in the area, Israeli army officers at Beit Yahun crossing said.

After a security check, the

When pressed, she said: "I don't escapees from Beirut quickly passed through the bureaucratic red tape in a small office run by a young green-eyed Lebanese woman in an Israeli army uniform, who gave her name as

Gerogette. The Lebanese arrived with luggage in their hands. They are not allowed to bring in their vehicles for fear of suicide carbomb cars like the Aug. 9 bombing in which five Israeli soldiers and an allied militiaman were wounded.

The suicide bombing was claimed by the extremist Hizboliah group, which said the attack came in retaliation for Israel's July 28 kidnapping of a Shi'ite cleric from South Lebanon.

Reporters were ordered to out on flak jackets and belmets as their convoy, accompanied by an Israeli armoured personnel carrier and military iceps, crossed into southern Lebanon.

The convoy kept the prescribed distances between the vehicles so as to avoid massive casualties in

But many Lebanese drivers encountered on the way appeared to ignore orders issued by Antoine Land, commander of the

Israeli officer indicted for accepting bribes

Sudanese rebels to meet junta envoys

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli occupied West Bank or Gaza army officer was indicted Thursday on 19 counts of accepting bribes from reserve soldiers who wanted to avoid difficult army service, the army said.

The sentence will be pronounced at a later stage, a military spokesman said.

The spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, would not say if the officer was bribed by reservists who wanted to escape service in the

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Sudanese rebels, demanding

sweeping political changes by the

Khartoum government as condi-

tions for peace talks, said Friday

they would meet envoys from

Sudan's ruling military junta.

An 11-member delegation

from Sudan's Revolutionary

Strip.
He said Lieutenant Lior Lev, 22, served at the army's main induction centre in Tel Hashomer near Tel Aviv and began accepting bribes from reserve soldiers several months ago.

"The soldiers gave him money, because basically everyone wantsto serve close to home," the spokesman said. "It's not necessarily because they didn't want to serve in the (occupied) terri-

later Friday for talks likely to

to what they have to say," a

spokesman for the Sudan Peo-

ple's Liberation Army (SPLA),

Major Deng Alor Deng, told

Reuters.
"There is nothing on the agen-

da (for the talks) but we are ready

for peace talks," he added.

We will meet them and listen

open Saturday.

Lior was arrested on July 16 and indicted Thursday before the general staff court, the army's highest courthouse. He also faces charges before a civilian court for forging driver's licences and insurance certificates.

The spokesman said in one charge Lior was accused of demanding 2,000 shekels (\$1,000) from an owner of a Tel Aviv night club, to assign him to an "easy

Khalifa, a member of the junta

that toppled Prime Minister

Sadeq Al Mahdi's civilian govern-

ment, said earlier this week his

discussions with the SPLA would

explore if the two sides could

hold further talks to halt the

The two sides were scheduled

to meet in the first week of this

month, but the talks did not take

place and no reason has been

Min./max. temp. 19 / 32 25 / 38

country's six-year civil war.

posting" when he was called up for reserve duty.

The club owner allegedly told Lior he did not have the money. but would throw an expensive party at his nightclub when Lior finished his regular army service

Last year 16 people, including several high-ranking officers, were arrested and charged with accepting bribes to help recruits avoid military service.

given.
The SPLA, fighting to end

what it sees as domination of the

south by the north, this week told

the military junta to step down in

favour of a democratic govern-

Any new peace formula must include the holding of free elec-

tions and the release of all politic-

al prisoners not charged in court

with corruption, the rebels said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli officials have confirmed that a kidnapped pro-Iranian Shi'ite Lebanese cleric, Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, told his Israeli interrogators he believed two

tion of a report on the soldier's deaths that surfaced in the Sunday Times of London earlier this week. But officials contradicted the

Israeli soldiers missing in Leba-

It was the first Israeli confirma-

non are dead.

British report, saying they had serious doubts as to the reliability of Obeid's statement, which they said was based on second-hand information.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the soldiers' families were informed of the outcome of Obeid's interrogation last week. "The families of the soldiers ...

knew this information from Obeid's interrogation before the leak," Rabin said in an exclusive

Israel television interview during a tour of Israel's Lebanon border. The quote was not broadcast, but the Associated Press obtained a transcript of it.

'Obeid told interrogators Israeli PoWs dead'

A senior defence ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Obeid told investigators he "heard from somebody" that the soldiers, Yossi Fink and Rahamim Alsheik, died after their capture by extremists in February 1986.

Fink's father, Mordechai, confirmed the army told him last week that Obeid believed his son was dead. "We knew it before it was

leaked," he said in a telephone interview. "We were (informed), but not what was said in the Sunday

Times," he said. The Sunday Times reported

that Israeli officials concluded that Obeid's statements were son's fate. Israel's official policy is that the soldiers are considered alive until there is concrete proof they are dead. Officials said they plan to investigate the source of the Sun-

He said he was in constant con-

tact with military official and was

told they have "no substantial

information whatsoever' on his

day Times' leak. Israeli commandos kidnapped Obeid from his house in the southern Lebanese village of Jibchit, accusing him of being a leader in the Iranian-backed Hiz-

bollah militia and of direct involvement in the abduction of Fink and Alsheik. Officials said at the time they hoped to swap the sheikh for the

two missing infantrymen and an air force navigator, Ron Arad, who bailed out before his plane crashed in southern Lebanon. They later expanded the offer

to include foreign hostages be-"That is not true," Fink said. lieved held by Hizbollah or related militias. Sixteen Western captives are

held in Lebanon, half of them

The Israeli operation ignited strong criticism in the United States and other Western countries after a group claimed to have hanged William Higgins, a U.S. marine kidnapped while on U.N. duty in southern Lebanon, three days after Obeid was

Another extremist group threatened to kill U.S. hostage, Joseph Cicippio, but later froze the threat.

Rabin said Thursday that no progress was made in negotiations since Obeid's kidnapping.

"I hope there will be progress... that will bring our children home," he said. "In the meantime, there is no start in these negotiations."

Council which seized power on June 30 was expected to arrive in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

Koran .. Programme review Children programme Educational programme 18:05 18:25 Message from Iraq A play by Shakespeare Local programme Programme review 19:10 19:40 Programme review News in Arabic 20:00 20:30 21:30 . Arabic series 21:40

19:15 19:30

News in French

mural Phenomena

Aujourd bui en Jordanie

Colonel Mohammad Al Amin

emblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annenciation Tel. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 811295. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

and winds will be northwesterly mod-erate. In Agaba, winds will be norther-

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellich. Tel. 810740 AMMAN: Dr. Yousef Sam Day Selects Tcl. 815817, 821264

ZARQA: Dr. Samir Al Lawzi **EMERGENCIES**

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Agaba 28. Humidity readings: Amman 36 per cent, Aqaba 35 per Civil Defence Department Rescue.... Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777 **USEFUL TELEPHONE** NUMBERS Blood Bank Highway Police Traffic Police ... **NIGHT DUTY** Public Security Dep Hotel Complaints Price Complaints Water and Sewerage ad Abu Mahfouz 793344 897467 Dr. Wa'el Khartabil . 665917 mman Municipality Dr. Anwar Aqrabawi 642696 First pharmacy 778336 Al Asema pharmacy Vairoukh obarmacy 623672 Central Amman Telephone Al Salam pharmacy 636730 Yacoub pharmacy 661101 fordan Tek Dr. Ahmad Bishtay (—) (985238)

Electric Power 636381 n Alia Incl. Airport. HOSPITALS AMMAN:

Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann ... 64281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Ann ... 642441/2 Jabai Amman Maternity 642342 664171/4 . 669131 . 845845 Shmeisani Hospital University Hospital ... Al-Mussher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali 666127/3 Al-Ahli, Abdali Italian, Al-Muhaireen Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 777101/3 891611/15 . 602240/50 674155 Zarqa Govt, Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071 Ibu Sina Hospital (09)986732 RBD: Greek Catholic Hospital
Iba Al Nafocs Hospital Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) 85:30 Singapore, Knala Lumpur (RJ) 19:80 Damascus (RJ) Aqaba (RJ) New Delhi (RJ) Kuwait (RJ) hi, Dubai (RI) Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ

17:20 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vica

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Fli (Terminal 1) ... Agab ... Tripol .. Athen New York 12:15 Par 13:30 13:45 Dhahra Kuwa in, Doh Lumak ... Jedda

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	MARKET PRICES
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14:30 Knwait (KU)	Upperlower price in fils per kg.
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17:25 Riyadh (SU)	[TUDGE 2.3272220]
17:55 Rome (AZ)	Apple (red) 700 / 600
22-45 Paris, Damascus (AF)	Banana
DEPARTURES	Beass
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights	Cabbage 120 / 80 Cashiftower 280 / 220
(Terminal 1)	
	Cocumbers (large)
eesee	COCCUMENTS (STREET) FOR 1 AND
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12:15 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)	
12-30 Baghdad (RJ)	Garlie 1300 / 1000
13:00	Grapes
13:00	
13:15 Paris (RI)	Gazya 250 / 200
13:30 Frankfurt, Bressels (RJ)	Genve
·· 13945 Catro (RJ)	
28:30 Dhahran (RJ)	Marrow (large)
20:40 Kuwait (Ri)	Marrow (large) 300 / 250
20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)	
21:00 Larmaka (RI)	Orange 550 / 500
21:18 Jeddah (RJ)	
21:20	4 CACAGO I COM
21:36 Abu Dhabi, Dobai (RI)	Pepper (hot) 220 / 180
Out on Piletan Co.	
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
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Maghdad (IA)	
14:05	
15:35 Kuwait (KU)	
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Prince Mohammad visits army HQ

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein Thursday called at the Armed

Armay Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb Petra photo).

Queen briefed on health communication project

AMMAN (J.T.) - Her Majesty Queen Noor was presented Thursday with a detailed briefing on the health communication project which is being immented by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) in conjunction with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Academy for Educational Development (USAED).

Dr. Sima Bahhous, the project director, and Dr. Ayman Abu Laban a specialist in project sessment, presented details of the communication project which entailed radio and television messages designed to improve mother and child health level in Jordan through orienting the public on the benefits of good, bealthy habits such as breast feeding and birth spacing.

The messages were broadcast in May, June and July and were prepared in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) according to NHF

According to Bahhous, the messages attracted 93 per cent of television viewers and 95 per cent

of radio listeners in Jordan. The Queen and those attending the briefing gave some remarks on the subject and all agreed that further campaigns of this kind were necessary and will continue.

NHF experts believe that the project, which was initiated in 1987, will further advance Jordan's overall health objectives through the mass media programmes that advocate appropriate family health and child survival technologies in such fields, as oral rehydration, birth spacing, breast feeding, respiratory ailments and environmental sanitation.

Among those present at the briefing, which took place at the NHF offices were Health Minister Zuhair Malhas, Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali, Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan and representatives of USAID, UNICEF, UNRWA and UN-AED and the U.S. Save the



Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday visits Noor Al Husseln Foundation. Also present are Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas,

Minister of Culture and Information Nussaan . Majali and Yarmouk University President Majagemad Hamdan (Petra photo).

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

LOAN FOR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL: The Cabinet has decided to re-lend a loan from the Saudi Development Fund to the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation to finance the second expansion stage of the Amman Industrial School. The loan to be given for this project amounts to 33 million Saudi riyals. (Petra)

LAWZI MEETS TURKISH MP: Upper House of Parliament Speaker and Head of the Jordanian parliamentary delegation to the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) has received a memorandum from the head of the Turkish parliamentary delegation to the IPU dealing with the Turkish minority in Bulgaria and the hard circumstances it has gone through. The memorandum touches on the Turkish delegation's determination to raise this issue at the 82nd international parliamentary conference scheduled to convene in London in early September. Lawzi, on his part, stressed Jordan's position which calls for tackling this issue in accordance with the international law and voiced his determination to coordinate positions with the other Arab and Islamic parliamentary delegations in order to reach a just solution to this issue. (Petra)

TEAM RETURNS FROM TRANSPORT TALKS: The Jordamian delegation to the Jordan-Iraq Land Transport Company returned home Thursday after taking part in the board of directors meeting which concluded recently in Baghdad. The meetings dealt with expanding the activities of the company outside Iraq and Jordan as well as reviewing the company's financial report for the first part of this year, the company's Deputy Director General Suleiman Habahbeh said. He added that the board of directors presented to the ministers of transport and telecommunications in both countries a proposal related to recognising truck driving licences issued in both countries. (Petra)

RJ ATTENDS ACC CIVIL AVIATION MEETING: Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, took part in a joint meeting by the commercial and financial committees set up by the Unified Council on Civil Aviation in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries which was held in Cairo lately. Dr. Majdi Sabri, director of RJ's marketing and sales who attended the meeting, said that cooperation between the national airlines, removing restrictions in air travel and unifying marketing policies were among the main items discussed. (Petra)

RJ TRANSPORTS 35,179 PASSENGERS: Royal Jordanian (RI), the national airline, issued a statistical bulletin disclosing that its aircraft transported 35,179 passengers in the first week of August, 1989. The bulletin said that RJ aircraft carried 1,108 tonnes of goods to different destinations in the same period. (Petra)

JORDAN ATTENDS ABU TALKS: Jordan is taking part in a the administrative council of the Arab Broadcasting Union (ABU) which started in Tunis Thursday. Issues related to the exchange of news programmes, which is being conducted through a centre in Algeria, and the work of the Damascus-based Radio and Television Training Centre will be discussed at the meeting. Delegates from 11 Arab countries and experts in broadcasting are taking part in the meeting. Usama Asfour from Radio Jordan ins leading a team of engineers and officials to the meeting. (Petra)

ARAB MEDIA STANDING COMMITTEE TO MEET: Jordan will participate in the 47th regular session of the Arab Media Standing Committee due to convene in Tunis Monday. The three-day meetings will discuss on matters related to developing joint Arab action in the field of media through the implementation of a joint Arab plan in this regard. Jordan is represented by Ministry of Information Secretary General Trad Al Fayez, Jordan News Agency Director General Ali Safadi, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Jordan Company for Television, Radio and Cinema Production Jawad Maraga, and the Jordan News Agency correspondent in Tunisia. (Petra)

MARITIME COMPANY GETS NEW SHIP: The Jordan National Maritime Company has received a new ship it bought from a Norwegian company at the cost of \$6,650,000. This ship, which can take a load of 16,000 tonnes, will be operational along a new line linking Aqaba port with the ports in the Far East and the Red Sea. The new ship, to be called Jordan 1, will transport goods such as phosphate, fertilisers, cement and potash. (Petra)

QATARI EMIR RECEIVES JORDANIAN ENVOY: The Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani had a meeting in Doha with Khaled Awamleh, Jordan's ambassador to Qatar. The Emir discussed with the ambassador, who is ending his tour of duty in the Gulf state, several topics related to Jordanian-Qatari cooperation in a number of fields. The ambassador was presented with Qatar's highest medal for his services. (Petra)

HIJAZ RAILWAY LINE: The Transport and Telecommunication Ministry is currently considering restoring the Hijaz Railway Line between Amman and Damascus which stopped functioning years

APU COUNCIL ENDS TALKS IN DUBAI: The Postal Services and Postal Savings Corporation has participated in the Arab Postal Union Executive Council meetings which concluded in Dubai on Aug. 15. The meetings dealt with a review of a number of proposals as well as possible nominees to fill vacant posts in the International Postal Union. The conferees also studied the draft budget of the Arab Postal Union for 1990. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

☆ A plastic art exhibition by Jordanian Artist Maha Abu 'Ayyash at the Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani. FESTIVAL

☆ A enitural festival including exhibitions of books, paintings and
national documents, as well as documentary films, lectures and poetry recitals at Eder Sports Club, Karak.

Voter cards to differ from one constituency to another

AMMAN (J.T.) — Voters in the coming parliamentary elections scheduled for Nov. 8 will be issued new voter cards which differ from one constituency to another, according to a decision taken by the Minis-

try of Interior. The cards will be issued by provincial governors and distributed through the registration centres in each governorate, according to the decision announced at a meeting held in Amman Thursday chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masa'deh.

The statement said that the procedure will be conducted immediately, and the cards will be issued to eligible voters voters list for the coming paras soon as possible once the voter lists have been finalised.

Questions related to campaigning for the elections and the need to strictly abide by the law which prohibits such campaigns before 25 days from election day, were discussed at the meeting which was attended by provincial governors, directors of the Public Security and the Civil Registration and Passports Departments and other Ministry of Interior officials.

Last Tuesday the ministry announced that preparation for the final version of the

liamentary elections in November were underway now that the process of registering voters had ended.

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker announced Wednesday evening that the elections will be held on Nov. 8, and said that they would be conducted under provisions stipulated in the amended election law of 1986.

Nominations for candidates will take place during a period of three days starting Oct. 14, the elections will be conducted in one day on Nov. 8 and the counting of votes will be completed in the following day.



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masa'deh Thursday chairs a mark it provincial governors in Amman (Petra photo)

Jordan seeks to tie debts to Moscow with trade — Masri

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Soviet Union has agreed in principle to reschedule Jordan's repayment of its debts owed to Moscow for the years 1989 and 1990 amounting to \$190 million, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Taher Al Masri

"The Soviet Union has agreed 'in principle' to reschedule the debt, but we are trying to tie it up with selling goods to the USSR, including Jordanian phosphates with an annual average in the range of 200,900 to 500,000 ton-Masri told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview. According to industry sources, the average price of one tonne of phosphate is in the range of \$45 to \$50, free on board Aqaba.

On Thursday, Masri was quoted by Reuter as saying that under an accord to be sealed in September, some of the payments will be rescheduled over ten years with six years' grace.

He was also quoted as saying that delay in signing is mainly to decide the volume and prices of Jordanian exports in the barter portion of the deal. "Each one will have to define the items and prices and then we will go to Moscow again in September to sign the accord," Masri told the news agency.

Masri, who returned to Am-

man Tuesday from a week-long visit to the Soviet Union, said Amman and Moscow had also reached agreement to set up joint The agreement, he said, came

during a meeting in Moscow last week of a joint Jordanian-Soviet committee attended by Ministry of Industry and Trade Under-Secretary Mohammad Saqqaf. "Under the protocol, we hope

BAGHDAD (Petra) - Ministers

Arab Cooperation Council

(ACC) countries are due to meet in Baghdad Wednesday to discuss

unifying judicial legislations in

Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North

Yemen, according to Iraqi Minis-

ter of Justice Akram Abdul Qad-

ACC justice ministers

of Justice in the four member training of judges and public pro-

The minister said that the leg- Baghdad meeting during their

MADABA GETS JD 33,000 GRANT: Madaba municipality has

been granted JD 33,000 from the Ministry of Public Works and

Housing to help repair the city streets. The mayor, Ahmad Qateish,

said that part of the grant will be used to repair the Madaba-Karak

secutors

to meet in Baghdad

islations in question pertain to Alexandria summit.



Taber Al Masri

to increase trade between the two countries," Masri said. The envisaged action includes trade fairs in both countries, he added.

The joint committee also signed the first trade protocol to further increase economic and technical cooperation between the two sides, agreeing to equal exchanges in 1989-1990 totalling \$50 million, according to a Jordanian official quoted by Reuter.

Soviet exports to Jordan in 1988, mainly iron ore, paper, machinery, timber and chemicals were worth JD 4.5 million (around \$7.5 million at official exchange rates), Reuter said, adding that Jordan exported nothing to the Soviet Union.
The Moscow talks on debts

came in line with Jordan's moves to reschedule repayments of its \$8 billion foreign debts. The Kingdom has already

reached agreement with the Paris Club of creditor nations to reschedule about \$2 billion in repayments for the years 1989 and 1990. It is hoping for similar arrangements with the London Club of creditor banks and other financial institutions in negotiato establish joint trade ventures tions expected to be held soon.

civil courts, judicial procedures,

Means of developing ex-

changes of expertise in judicial

matters and holding conferences

and seminars on judicial issues

will also be discussed at the meet-

ing, the minister added.

He said that the heads of the

Arab countries decided on the

Forty-three per cent of the Kingdom's total foreign debts are owed to the Paris Club, and 19 per cent to the London Club.

According to recent reports, debts owed to the Soviet Union, incurred mostly in military purchases after the U.S. Congress vetoed an \$1.8 billion arms deal with the Kingdom in 1986, accounts for 13 per cent of the

Dinar remains firm

Masri's successful talks in Moscow coincided with an upbeat mood in financial circles in Amman as the Jordanian dinar remained firm against the American dollar.

Exchange dealers were buying the dollar at a range between 720 fils to 750 fils and selling at 750 fils to 760 fils in the so-called free market introduced earlier this month under a two-tier system. The first tier sets the rate for imports of basic foodstuffs, some medicine and fees for Jordanian students abroad, while the second covers other areas where foreign exchange is needed.

The first tier price remained at 596/602 fils Thursday. According to banking sources,

the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) is nearing its goal of abolishing the two-tier system and unifying the rate somewhere midway between the two rates.

In the black market mean-while, the U.S. currency was quoted at less than 700 fils in what one described as "thin trading" in the last few days. "Only those who are scared to approach the banks are selling in the black market," commented an economic analyst.

Commercial banks were no longer approaching the Central Bank for foreign exchange to finance their clients' imports despite a CBJ offer to sell them the dollar at 765 fils with a resale ceiling of 770 fils.

Many dealers expected the Central Bank to further lower the rate. The CBJ implemented its foreign exchange strategy after the Kingdom secured about \$400 -million in Arab aid, as well as agreement with some creditors on rescheduling its debt repayments for 1989 and 1990.

· The bank appeared to have achieved its main goal of doing away with the black market, where the dollar hit 960 fils in late

Simultaneous with the implementation of the currency strategy, CBJ has also managed to build its foreign exchange reserves. CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi said last week that the reserves were over \$400 million - a dramatic increase from the \$20 million a few

Jordan to allow import of West Bank olive oil to meet local needs

AMMAN (J.T.) — Any amounts of West Bank olive oil will be allowed into Jordan to meet the local needs of this commodity. according to the decision by Minister of Agriculture Adnan

Jordan faces a shortage of olive oil which is much in demand here as a result of poor harvest this year and due to earlier exportation of surplus oil to Arab and foreign countries, the minister said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra quoted the minister also as saying that Jordan will allow other agricultural products, such as vegetables and fruit, to be marketed in Jordan but there will

be a study of the local market needs of each type of these products so that imports from the West Bank will not have a negative effect on Jordan's own agricultural situation.

Badran said in his statement that the Ministry of Agriculture was preparing a draft law to unify all sources of agricultural credit. The Agricultural Credit Cor-

poration (ACC) will be entrusted with the task of giving loans to mostly to the Arab Cu farmers in accordance with the tries. new law which will have to be endorsed by the Higher Agriculture is also been

cultural Council defore it can be put into force, the minister said. Jordan and provider.

policy of providing ments like fertilisers and said reasonable and subsidiated pr In addition, Budrier sale

government has openite

for the private sector

types of agricultur inprovided they fire some need of the local market. Agricultural products no are being experted by art and through land transform....

Badran said that the Milmst

To help farmers, the Ministry tial requirements to the state of Agriculture is maintaining a breeders and farmers.

Ministry studies ACC transport pacts

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications is currently studying a series of agreements on land, air and maritime transport to normalise transportation among the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries, Minister of Transport Hikmat Al Khammash said Thursday.

Once the agreements have been adopted and endorsed, more transport facilities and freedoms will be available to all carriers, the minister said at a meeting with a team representing the Union of Truck Owners in Jordan.

viewed a number of problems transporting goods in the conthat impede the work of truckers the light of the record increase during their travel from and into creases in the once of space the Jordan and a number of measures and tyres. were approved to remove all obstacles

Saudi Arabian team will visit added. Jordan shortly to discuss matters related to fees imposed on trucks upon entry into Saudi Arabia and visas that should be issued for the

He said that Ministry of Trans-port is contemplating the idea of

The minister and the team re- increasing the rate of the columns.

A team of technicisms and the perts is involved to a convey in the local market in order to proper-The minister announced that a for the next step. The minimal

> As to other provide costructing land trainer tions, the minister be taken to remove the

Abu Qoura to visit Europe some

societies due in October.

AMMAN (Petra) - President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura announced Friday that he will be making visits to Bulgaria, Switzerland and Italy to discuss matters related to the work of the Red Cross and Red Crescent societies around the

Abu Qoura said in a statement that he will discuss with the Bulgarian Red Cross Society bolstering cooperation between the Jordanian and Bulgarian societies and coordinating their stands at an international conference for the Red Cross and Red Crescent

In Geneva, Abu Qoura noted, he will meet with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) officials to discuss an agenda for the coming meeting. Later. Abu Qoura is due to take part in a round table meeting on international humanitarian law which will be convened at San Remo in Italy on Sept. 12.

The five-day meeting in Italy, Abu Qoura said, will discuss matters related to providing protection to refugees rendered homeless as a result of armed conflict, among other issues. According to a JNRCS state-

composed of three memory take part in an interest youth camp which is spire by the ICKC. The composition of the Italy and Geneval agrees for

ber, will group represent the youth: working societies around the ated to ICRC of the Consocieties.

several summers and the programmes of activities to humanitanan ser ::: conducted during the co-

GUVS to set up 4 new centres in rehabilitation of retarded

AMMAN (J.T.) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan has embarked on setting up four centres for the rehabilitation of mentally retarded children in Maďaba, Sahab, Eidoun and Mafraq at the total estimated cost of JD

A GUVS spokesman said that once the four centres had been

similar centres in Ma'an, Aqaba, and Zarqa. The establishment of these cen-

set up work will start on three

tres, the spokesman said, is part of a GUVS general plan to promote rehabilitation services to handicapped children in Jordan.

He said that work meanwhile is going on for the establishment of the Multi-chetter. the multi-disabled rehabilitation. Eve and Do years

centre at Yaleut The projected expected to and should be able to provide some to 150 children.

Last December, Fig. 1011/11. Queen Noor lay the for within w stone for the centre of the be known as Al Ar a



Jordan Times

جورين تأيمز يومية عربية سياسية مستالة تصدر مالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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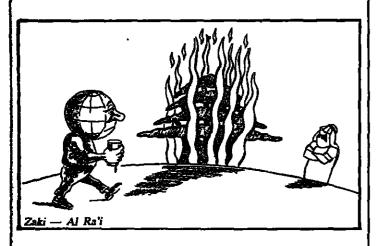
The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Natural reward

AS JORDANIANS continue celebrating the appreciation of their currency against hard currencies in the tune of 35 per cent over the last few days, the eyes of everybody are set to see how this much awaited appreciation will effect their cost of living. Surely this hard won victory deserves the natural reward of a drop in the prices of the imported goods and manufactured products. The country remembers well bow the business community exploited the depreciation of the dinar to their advantage by charging the public prices that did not in fact reflect their actual costs. If our merchants and traders this time also take the Jordanian customers for a ride by charging them prices that reflect the old exchange rate of the dinar, then somebody must step in and put an end to this perpetual greed and utter abuse and exploitation of the public.

Unfortunately the Consumer Protection Society has yet to start its operations and responsibilities in defence of Jordanian consumers who got wary of permanent abuse. That is why it is incumbent on the relevant authorities to issue guidelines to the people as well as to the business community on how to reflect the appreciation of the dinar in the complicated equation that determines the retail prices of imported goods.

The least that Jordanians expect now is the reduction in prices of airline tickets which were recently hiked up ostensibly because of the depreciation of the dinar in the last few weeks. Now that that depreciation has been reversed, it is only natural that the prices of tickets must be reduced accordingly. And what applies to tickets must also apply to cars, appliances and every item of goods that the country imports. When this happens, the cost of living will accordingly drop few points at least. As must be appreciated, the sky rocketing cost of living in Jordan has hit most Jordanians with a vengeance. The stoic acceptance of steep increases in prices of goods and services in the Kingdom deserves a break now that the principal cause has been rectified to a considerable extent. Let us hope that this much sought relief is forthcoming.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN daily newspapers gave a wide coverage to the improvement in the exchange rate of the Jordanian dinar, describing it as a very positive development contributing towards enhancing the nation's monetary and financial standing. Al Ra'i daily said that the situation is a source of deep satisfaction for all Jordanians who feel quite gratified with the measures taken by the Central Bank of Jordan. The sense of national awareness should continue and help abort all hostile attempts to destabilise the national economy, said the paper. It has become clear for all now that the crisis was mainly caused by illegitimage speculations and by hostile campaigns directed on Jordan's economy, the paper continued. King Hussein himself led the way for Jordanians to show a great deal of unity and tenacity when he announced that the nation will not succumb to pressure and can never give in to coercion come what may, the paper added. It said that Jordan will remain committed to backing all Arab causes foremost of which is the Palestine cause and the Palestinian people's struggle for

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily discusses the situation in Lebanon in the light of the all-out war between the conflicting parties and the intervention of outside forces. Abdul Rahim Omar says that the Arab masses were pained at the loss of life and the wide destruction in Iraq as a result of the Iraq-Iran war and backed Baghdad in its attempts to fend off the Iranian aggression and to achieve peace in the Gulf. The Arab masses also were jubilant over the end of the Gulf conflict and now seek to establish a permanent peace in the Gulf area, says the writer. But he adds. the Arab masses are pained to see the same conflict flaring up again on Lebanese soil and pained even more to see the armies of two Arab countries locked up in battle in Lebanon, benefiting Israel and the enemies of the Arab Nation. The writer refers to the Arab League's call on the Syrian army to leave Lebanon but expresses disappointment over the league's failure to take some action to drive the Israeli occupation forces from the embattled

Al Dustour discussed Lebanon in the light of a call by the U.N. Security Council for a ceasefire. The paper said that call reflects an increasing international concern over the situation in Lebanon following the latest outbreak of war that involves several parties. The council expressed support for the Arab League in its endeavours to end the bloodshed should prompt the mediation committee to resume its mission, the paper noted. It said that the return of the Arab League to the arena would no doubt keep the crisis within the Arab World and prevent any internationalisation of the problem. The paper said Jordan supports the U.N. Security Council and the Arab League in their efforts to end the long ordeal of Lebanon and wishes that all the warring parties will respond to the peaceful efforts.

Is Gorbachev going to succeed?

By Anders Aslund

NO THREAT to President Mikhail Gorbachev looks more fateful than the economic crisis. Its resemblance to the Polish quandary in the early 1980s is not limited to the sooty faces of striking workers. The roots of these two economic crises are too

Shortages that grew ever worse disrupted the Polish economy and outraged the consumers. They were caused by a steadily increasing gap between supply and demand, as wages surged beyond control, while it was politically impossible to let prices loose. now, the Soviet Union is facing the same dilemma. its growing queues and widespread rationing reflect the worst shortages since Stalin. Wage ceilings have been abolished with the reform, permitting wages to rise excessively because state enterprises remain insensitive to costs and compete for scarce labour.

The reform has also allowed state enterprises the easy choice to produce expensive profitable commodities or cheap unprofitable ones. Naturally, they prefer to produce less for more. With the prevailing scarcities, anything can be sold. The man in the street, on the contrary, wants more to buy. He calls for strict price controls in a vain hope to force enterprises to produce their crisis erupted because of the more. Alas, the result is the sudden cut of vital imports from

other at an extraordinary speed. The flux almost brought the state administration to a halt. The many commands that were necessary for the running of the economy were never issued. Any action exposed a decision-maker to excessive personal risks. It was more rewarding to concentrate on personal intrigues, facilitating promotions.

appears far worse. Hardly anyone can keep up even with the com-position of the Soviet government. The mastodonic state administration has seen its staff reduced by one quarter -600,000 people, while its work load has increased. So far, Gorbachev has failed to purge the party apparatus. Instead, he has deprived it of effective leadership, leaving the party in a state of complete confusion. The administrative chaos is a sufficient reason for a fall in production. presumably, it started last year, although it has been hidden in inflated statistics.

Polish officials may protest that their crisis erupted because of the

well-known growing gap between supply and demand. The whole economy is moving into a state of chaos, and the population is becoming thoroughly demoralised. Why work, when there is nothing to buy? At the height of the Polish

crisis, ministers succeeded each The current Soviet situation

> the West, but most Polish reformers think they exaggerate, and so do I. It was only an auxiliary reason. Conversely, the USSR cannot be saved by its creditworthiness. The radical Soviet economist Nikolai Shmelev has advocated large-scale imports of consumer goods to mitigate the shortages, but the chief Soviet planner Yuri Maslyukov recently retorted that "no foreign uncle will solve this problem for us." The mechanism that generates the shortages must be amended before foreign credits can do

It must not be forgotten that

Poland had some advantages over the Soviet Union. It had a large private sector that thrived during the crisis and provided the country with bumper harvests, and Poland had no national or regional tensions worth mentioning.

But what about the Polish strikes? They were effects rather than causes of the economic crisis. Dismal standards of living were declining further, while workers were no longer afraid. The same is now true of the USSR. Tocqueville, as well as Lenin, called such a situation revolutionary, and right they

reappear. On a larg scale, not least since the authorities remunerated the coal miners so picely for their strikes in July. Even during the first half of 1989, the government claimed a loss of two million man days

because of strikes.

were. Soviet strikes are likely to

Admittedly, the political settings are very different. The Polish unrest started from below, while the Soviet reform has been launched from above, and Gotbachev keeps up the political momentum. Still, the economic and social crises look confusingly

worse in the USSR. Well, what can we expect? The answer is as simple as it is unpleasant. The crisis is likely to deepen until it becomes politically possible to raise prices so that the market approaches balance. and that is anathema in the current Soviet debate. General Wojciech Jaruzelski did not dare to attempt such a step without martial law in Poland. In the meantime, the Polish national incomeplunged by 22 per cent over three years. There is hardly any reason

to expect that the USSR will do

better --- The Washington Post.

at present it has only one -

though this situation is expected

to change dramatically next year

with the first free elections in four

independent environmentalist

groups prompted the government

to stop work on the Hungarian

part of a huge hydro-electric scheme on the Danube being

built jointly with Czechoslovakia.

demanded up to \$2 billion in

Prague was furious, and has

Earlier this year pressure from

decades.



Non-alignment No nations without people

By Branko Stosic

AS FAR BACK as their first conference in Belgrade in 1961 the non-aligned countries declared their commitment to the establishment of a "new order based on freedom, equality and social justice." Thus far, however, none of their documents formulates their stand on human

At the eight summits, fifteenodd ministerial conferences, ores of coordination bureau sessions and innumerable other meetings held so far, the Non-Aligned Movement has deliberated all kinds of universal and specific problems of the presentday world, from raw materials and sports, over tourism and international economic cooperation, to war and peace, security and the right of peoples to selfdetermination. Not once, however, did the agenda of a nonaligned meeting contain the issue of human rights, nor has the movement formulated its stand on this subject.

It cannot be said that the movement's failure to tackle the issue was a deliberate evasion, or even on oversight, since human rights have taken on a broad international dimension and are no longer confined to individual states. Over the past decade, it has frequently been stated in the U.N. General Assembly that human rights are no longer the private affair of states, nor can the issue remain their exclusive prerogative. Numerous resolutions passed by the United Nations underscore the generally accepted stance that no one, neither individuals nor states, international organisations or movements, can ignore the issue of human rights without the risk of discrediting themselves.

It is now time for the Non-Aligned Movement to devote attention to an issue it has long disregarded. The upcoming summit conference in Belgrade is perhaps the best, and certainly the last, opportunity for it to do

There are numerous reasons the movement can cite to explain away its longstanding reticence on human rights, despite the fact that the issue was dominant at many international meetings and, particularly, because the situation in certain non-aligned countries makes it incumbent on the movement to show an interest in the state of human rights there.

Two major reasons can partly excuse its failure to do so up to now. First, the movement's principle since its foundation was to achieve consensus, primarily on key problems, both international and its own. It was therefore governed by the unwritten rule of bearing in mind issues which bind the non-aligned countries, while leaving divisive issues in the background. The second reason ensued from the first as the move: ment endeavoured to adhere strictly to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs

of others. Despite the numerous coups and, frequently, bloodshed and massacres in certain countries, the movement never took a stand on them, except at the second summit conference when the question of Congo's (later Zaire) representation was raised. And later, in similar debates on Kampuchea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Chad, the problem was reduced simply to the "right to a chair." Human rights were never mentioned.

Over all this time, the hun

rights issue was included implicitly in the movement's general commitment to a "new order based on freedom, equality and social justice." And on many occasions after 1961, the nonaligned countries made similar commitments, most concretely in the resolution on apartheid and racial discrimination adopted at the 3rd summit in Lusaka in September 1970 when they declared their resolve to take active measures for the observance of human and other fundamental rights. Though the resolution pertained directly to South Africa, it implicitly included the movement's strategic stand on human rights, particularly in the light of similar formulations in documents passed at all subsequent summit conferences: Algiers in 1973, Colombo in 1976, Havana in 1979, New Delhi in 1983, and Harare in 1986.

But these generalised conclu-sions can no longer satisfy even the non-aligned countries themselves, and still less their international repute. However much it has done for the affirmation of the newly liberated countries and "small" peoples of the world, the Non-Aligned Movement can no longer avoid taking a clear-cut stance on human rights, especially as the issue has never been more topical than today. True, every nation must be recognised. But there can be no nation without people, citizens - and nationhood does not automatically ensure the rights of each and every individual. The non-aligned countries' duty is to work for the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms not only in countries where they are jeopardised by apartheid and racial discrimination, but in every member-state of the movement and around the whole world. On this occasion, it may be

worthwhile to recall the words of Guinea's President Sekou Toure in Havana when the Non-Aligned Movement paid special tribute to President Tito: "A serious man is a constant man. A serious man is a man who respects himself and others. In short, a serious man is a man of principle."

The non-aligned countries have won respect, prestige and authority in the world by adhering to this principle where nations and states, regardless of their social systems, size and history, are concerned. It is now time for their commitment to embrace human rights too - Tanjug fea-

Dissidents -turned-deputies liven and human rights: East Europe's foreign policy

By Colin McIntyre

VIENNA - The election of former dissidents to parliament in reformist East Bloc states promises to have the same dramatic effect on the region's foreign policy as on the domestic scene.

Last month a Polish Solidarity delegation including newlyelected parliamentarians visited Czechoslovakia to offer their support for dissidents battling against a hard-line Communist system. Making full use of their new

parliamentry status, the delegation of outlaws-turned-deputies talked openly with dissident and independent groups they had previously met only in secret at remote locations. We have been meeting

Czechs and Slovaks for 11 years, but until now it was always on the border, clandestinely," delegation member Jan Litynski told the opposition Polish daily Gazeta Wyborcza on his return home. The fact that the July 1989

meeting took place in Prague is a sign of changing times." In a comment that was bound

to have infuriated the Czechoslo-

vak government, Lytinski described meeting former party leader Alexander Dubcek, still in disgrace 21 years after being toppled by the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion, and called him "a man capable of initiating authentic

Another delegation member Zbigniew Bujak, former Solidarity underground leader who now heads the organisation's Warsaw operation, believed that radical new parliamentarians coming up in Poland, Hungary and the Soviet Union could influence policy in other countries.
"We think that official conde-

mnation by parliamentarians and opposition groups from countries which participated in the (1968) invasion could be an impulse for e in Czechosiovakia. told Gazeta Wyborcza.

"People responsible for political stagnation in Czechoslovakia may then be forced to go," he

Underlining the importance of their newly-won parliamentary status, he said: "I think the mere fact that our visit took place may give the Czechoslovak opposition some guarantees of security."

A prominent Czechoslovak dis- independent partiamentarians sident agreed, telling Reuters: The visit was a big boost for us. We know now that we are not alone.'

Not surprisingly, the Prague authorities saw it somewhat differently, and in a toughly-worded commentary the party organ Rude Pravo accused the delegation of seeking to destroy the Communist system in the Even in Poland doubts were

expressed about the wisdom of the visit. The party newspaper Trybuna Ludu, noting that Poland sought good ties with all its allies, a goal normally shared by Solidarity, commented: "Do the Czechoslovak activities of Soliing of relation

The Polish authorities can hardly take comfort from developments in Hungary, where pressure from independent groups has already severely strained relations with its Communist neighbours Romania and Czechoslovakia. And unlike Poland, Hungary

compensation if the Hungarians pull out altogether, as is thought likely.

Relations are even worse with

Rudanest has

Romania, which Budapest has accused of discriminating against darity... really serve the nurtur- an ethnic Hungarian minority of round two million. According to Hungarian

sources it has pressure from opposition organisations, including writers who formed the Hungarian Democratic Forum. one of the most influential groups, that helped change the government's policy from muted to open criticism of Romania's hard-line leader Nicolae has yet to acquire a pool of Ceausescu.

The passionate conscience of Le Monde's founder

By William Pfaff

PARIS — Hubert Beuve-Merv is dead. Few outside France, or outside the practice of journalism, are likely to recognise the name of the founder of a great newspaper, Le Monde. Yet his career richly illustrated the pain and contradictions of France's remaking of its own political life and conscience after the Second World War, and the tension of France's relationship with the United States in the early postwar years — renewed, in a measure, in the American relationship with all of Europe, with "1992

Europe," today. Not many people are presented with a newspaper. Hubert Beuve-Mery was. As a journalist, he had before the war outspokenly criticised the complaisance of the French press toward Hitler, and then he had fought in the Resistance. In 1944 the information minister in General de Gaulle's first government invited him to take over the plant of the main prewar daily, Le Temps, which had been suppressed for collaboration.

He was asked to create "a newspaper of reference, credible in France and in the world," a mission defined by the general himself. Mr. Beuve-Mery hesitated, demanded complete independence and was given it. He rapidly made of the new paper more than General de Gaulle had perhaps expected. It became not only a journal of reference but of conscience - a critic of the government and a counter-power to it. The general was subsequently to speak gloomily of its "spirit of

Mr. Beuve-Mery's quarrel with America, which rapidly emerged in the proposition that France adopt a policy of "neutralism" in the emerging Cold War, was moral in origin. To him, the United States seemed a totally mater-

constant negativism."

ialistic society, and the Atlantic alliance a form of blundering, but ultimately fatal, takeover by the United States of Western

He was one of a generation of Europeans for whom capitalism meant social injustice and the economic collapse of the 1930s. That was what the United States seemed to represent. Communism at least had an ethical inmulse behind it.

He was one of a number of 1930s Roman Catholic intellectuals who sought a new definition of social justice in cooperation and corporatism. Thus, at the beginning of the Vichy period, he became director of studies for a school that drew on both the prewar traditionalist and monarchist Catholic right. The liberal Catholic "personalists" with whom Mr. Benve-Mery was connected meant to educate an elite of leaders for post-war France. The school was suppressed by the Vichy authorities in 1942, and the whole school went into the armed Resistance, the

Le Monde challenged the Atlanticism of French govern-ments in the 1950s, the war in Indochina, and in what became a bitter controversy, it exposed and denomiced the French Army's use of torture in Algeria.

On the latter question, Mr. Beuve-Mery himself remarked, "I was in the maquis and I know that a certain kind of struggle makes [atrocities] inevitable ... That said, it is necessary to stop them from recurring, and to stop those who talk about them from being treated as traitors or fana Le Monde, however, was treated as treacherous by some

It nonetheless retained, as it retains today, two decades after Mr. Beuve-Mery's retirement, a privileged role with respect to developed a degree of tolerance

France's political elite. It is an essential factor, not in France's government, but in its governance - both close to power and power's perpetual critic, defending Mr. Beuve-Mery's editorial position: "Objectivity? It doesn't exist. What is necessary is to strive for a disinterested subjectivity.'

To understand the European

current of thought represented by Hubert Beave-Mery one must step out of the Anglo-American intellectual tradition into the one that formed him, and into the drastic economic circumstances that shaped both the Christian Democratic and Social Democratic parties that were to dominate West European politics after the war — and which dominate the new Europe today.

Jacques Delors, Catholic and Socialist, President of the European Commission, is from this tradition. So is the Protestant

Socialist prime minister of France, Michel Rocard. Spain's Felipe Gonzalez is such a Socialist, while Italy and West Germany are governed by Christian Democrats. All are in the camp that finds American (or Thatcherite) submission to market forces ultimately unacceptable -

on morai grounds. This conflict of values is not often articulated but it is a crucial factor in Europe's relationship with America today, as in the 1940s and 1950s. What lies behind many trans-Atlantic trade conflicts, and even the argument between the United States and the Europeans on a free market in television programmes and films, is an argument about cultu-ral and social values versus the wholly economic priorities of the marketplace. The argument is one Hubert Beuve-Mery would passionately have joined - International Herald Tribune.

Patient patients

To the Editor:

Alweibdeh clinic been swamped to deal with their own people. by many patients - which was not the case — one would have

and acceptance to the "cannot care less" attitude that one gets THANK you so much for expos- from both doctors and nurses. it ing the problems that face pa- dawned on me that perhaps the tients when they seek medical staff at the Alweibdeh clinic had attention at governmental hospit- this negative towards their paals and clinics. I must say that I tients because the latter are prepersonally had a taste of what you sumed to be without clout or write about when I took my child power to complain. In spite of our daughter to Alweibdeh govern- meager resources in material ment clinic Wednesday after- terms, the least that our medical noon. What struck me most was staff must do is to show care. the artifude of indifference that kindness and attentiveness toone often encounters when one wards their patients no matter seeks medical treatment for onself what their social, economic or or one's family. You are im- political status is. Will the minismediately made to feel that you ter of health take time to teach are trash that can be kicked about the people who operate the pubwith utter rudeness. Has the lic clinics some manners on how



YOMINATIONS WERE

CALLED FOR DANNY,

I DIVA DOY DIVA

MON - ISN'T

THAT NEAT?



A party dress signed Al Bishri (WNL).

Saudi designer takes Paris by surprise

By Phillippa Neave

PARIS - The audience in the plus Parisian salon sat in expectation, and although many were seasoned fashion observers and commentators, a certain thrill of curiosity hung in the air. The elegant women and fashion professionals were gathered recently in the famous "Pavillon Gabriel" off the Champs Elysees where the likes of Christian Dior and Yves St. Laurent have unveiled successive collections. Only this time, the models treading on the catwalk were showing off creations by a newcomer, Yahya Al Bishri.

Hailing not from Paris, not from Milan, or from Tokyo — the Meccas of the fashion world but from where Mecca really is, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 29-year-old Al Bishri is determined to change his country's widespread image of a place nere women head-to-toe robes.

Though this type of dress is seen often in the streets, private festivities offer another image of Arab women: Wealthy Saudi women are among the world's greatest amateurs of high-fashion garments designed by the most famous designers, and private parties, weddings, engagements or birthday celebrations are as many occasions to dress-up and

show oneself. Until designer Al Bishri took the plunge and going against his family's wishes and his country's traditions opened his workshop in Jeddah four years ago, Saudi women with a taste for Westernstyle, fashionable huxury clothing had no choice but to buy from foreign designers.

since he was 15, had to fight to be able to do what he enjoyed most; design clothing. In Paris he proved that he had won at least part of the battle for recognition at home and abroad. Said the young designer in an interview just before the show: "Starting out was very hard; first of all there was my family, they always tried to discourage me, to push me down because they don't like this kind of thing. They wanted me to go into some other business. Parents are the same all over the world, they like to think of their son as a lawyer, doctor or engineer - and this is especially true in the Arab Gulf countries, and even more so in Saudi

in this part of the world "people don't really know what being a designer means," he explained. "They imagine he is simply someone who sews ladic to clothes; what they do know is that it has to do with ladies, so you can imagine what people say: What is this business he is doing? What does he have to do with all these

Although Al Bishri's reputation is now well-established in Saudi Arabia, his family is still reluctant to approve of his endeavours: "They don't give me such a hard time anymore, but they certainly don't help," he said wistfully.

Art vs. war

One of the reasons why the road has been so difficult is that it is rare in his country for anyone to seriously embark on an "arty" career, which is also true in many other Arab countries, he said.

"There are very few art academies in the Arab World; there is so much conflict around that all people think about is war; when they are fighting, there is no time to think about art."

For Al Bishri the first step was to go to the Milan school of fashion in Italy to study. After several years he went back home and started designing. Now that he has begun to receive a fair amount of media attention with magazine coverage, TV and radio interviews, "people's ideas begin to change," he said; the whole adventure looks more like a sound business and may prove inspiring for other young Arabs tempted by unorthodox fields. "If I make a success of it, certainly it will open the way for other young

people to do such things. While trying to innovate, Al Bishri claims he is in tune with what people in his country want: "I draw a great deal from traditional Arab dress," he noted. "In fact I spent six months travelling around the Arab World and I met with people in the villages to try and get close to them, to understand more about traditional clothing. I would speak with them and ask them why they chose this colour, that fabric or this pattern of embroidery." Looking comfortable in blue

eans and a jeans shirt, Al Bishri added that he is in fact preparing a book on traditional dress in different parts of the Arab World. The book will include pictures of traditional garments next to the young designer's in-terpretation for modern women. T come from a very rich culture. I want to show the international people what the Arab people have. One can get a tremendous amount out of this culture; I am sure some European designers would love to know what is there," he added with a mis-

Poetical fashions

The young Saudi also draws on his love and knowledge of classical Arab poetry for inspiration. He continues to write poetry himself and reads a great deal: "A poet can describe an event like, while he is walking down the street, he passes a girl and is suddenly struck by love; he will describe her attitude, how she hides her face shyly behind her veil, how the fabrics of her dress flow around her as she walks, how the colours change as layers of fabric are blown gently by the wind... As soon as I read something like this, I immediately get up and go to the drawing board to do a sketch. I put what I see into my own language. Many of Al Bishri's designs

have a distinct oriental flavor, such as the dress he designed for Lady Diana when the British royal couple visited the Saudi Kingdom last year: soft, flowing, multicoloured transparent crepe and wide pans with a top richly embroidered in traditional Arab patterns. Although many of Al hri's clothes are extremely sculptured and elaborate, others are quirky, like a wink from the designer: an asymetrical sleeve here, the hem of a shirt lifted right up to one side like a fan revealing a thigh... As always, most designs are probably best suited to the younger generation, and the svelter body!

Al Bishri has shown collections in major shows in Amman and Carro, but the majority of his work involves designing exclusive dresses for private clients. "I like to design for the young, they are more open-minded, more open to suggestion. At the same time, when you are creating something for a particular person, you have to think of her personality, her psychology and how she feels," he noted.

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Getting to know a client's wishes is not always easy. Explains the designer. In the Arab World "the girl comes along with her whole family, mother, sisters, cousins and everybody has an opinion and tries to influence her. It would be easy if she were alone, but as it is, I often end up

making six or seven sketches."

Al Bishri has designed dresses for women of the Sandi aristocracy, a wedding dress for a princess of the United Arab Emirates and gowns for countless other clients. Many of these are personalised. For example, one wedding dress he designed had the names of the couple embroidered and woven in the fabric of the dress.

After Paris, Al Bishri says he wants to conquer other Western capitals. But he admits that choosing Paris as the venue for his first show in Europe this summer was taking a plunge at the deep end. 'Paris means prestige, it is the fashion capital of world. If you start in Paris and are successful, you've got it made." Looking calm and collected despite the pressure, Al Bishri is well aware of the fierce competition in the Paris arena, especially during the big collec-tion shows when everyone, and especially newcomers, are under the scrutiny of the world's criticis and cameras.

Encouraging reaction

The immediate reaction of the Paris audience seemed encouraging, with the majority of the very diverse styles drawing applause. From an opening with colourful, very oriental-looking pantaloon outlits, the show proceeded with a succession of highly elaborate suits and evening dresses. One white suit was particularly fetching with its apparent sobriety, which at closer look revealed an intricate fabric of woven pearls and sequins. True works of art, evening gowns were decorated with breathtaking hand-sewn flowers, leaves and fruit as well as arabesque designs made of pearls, sequins and semi-

precions stones. A less ornate but obviously popular series could be dubbed 'Palestinian Theme" because it uses the black and white cloth traditionally worn as the keffieh headdress by Palestinians. The fabric, considerably enriched with sequins and velvet ribbons, was turned into outfits of surprising originality: a mini-skirt from the front turned into a long gown at the back, ballooning pants were surrounded by multicoloured, flowing crepe. The show also included a series of sexy, body-hugging leather outfits as well as romantic evening gowns. There was something for everyone. Everyone who goes to extremely fancy parties that is. And everyone who has a replete wallet: though prices were not widely broadcast, some of the dazzling gowns were said to fetch some

\$45,000. lacking in Al Bishri's promising collection was casual clothing one can wear during the day. Maybe Al Bishri's foray in the West will inspire him to design for working women or women who just want to be elegant during the day. He says he has just signed a contract to open a shop in New York where he will present part of his collection this vear, and he is also planning to set up a boutique in Paris. Meanwhile, he is designing the costumes for "a major feature film"
— he could not give out the title soon to be shot in Italy.

Fame and money are OK, but Al Bishri says he expects more from working on the international scene. "I am trying to get wise," he concludes — World



vote the necessary funds?
The President, speaking on the 20th anniversary of the first Moon landing, announced that he had asked the National Space Council to calculate the cost and time needed to establish a lunar base as well as to send astronauts

to the "red planet." He also said that he was determined to press ahead with the planned space station, due to go into orbit by the mid 1990s. This \$19 billion project is a joint venture with the European Space Agency, Japan and Canada.

Given the necessary funding, experts believe that an expedition to Mars could take place by the year 2020. The journey would take more than a year, and a three or five-man mission is en-

about 12 astronauts. They were, the president added, part of the necessary long-term commitment if Americans wanted to retain their leadership in space explora-

But to do this the U.S. taxpayers will have to dig fairly deeply into their pockets. An official of NASA, the space agency, is quoted as saying that the lunar base and Mars mission projects would require a doubling of the organisation's \$11 billion

This currently represents one per cent of the Federal Budget, compared to around four per cent during the years culminating in the Moon triumph.

Whoever is the first to walk on Martian soil, he - or she - will ree or five-man mission is en-saged.

Well before then, however, as

occupy a niche in history along-side Neil Armstrong, the U.S. astronaut who, on July 20, 1969, became the first human being to step on another world. Thanks to global television satellite link, the event on the Moon was watched live back on Earth by an audience of at least 500 million.

Mars has long stirred human

GOLLY, MR

CRESIDENT

WHAT ARE WE DOING ON

MARSI

imagination and curiosity — the ancient Romans named it after their god of war. Its distance from Earth varies — as each planet orbits the Sun — from 55.5 million to 378 million kilometres. In good conditions Mars can be studied in considerable detail

with a telescope. Consequently, much was known about its surface before it came under closer scrutiny, over the past three decades, by U.S. and Soviet space

Though smaller than the Earth, has similarities, including the inclination of its axis which determines seasonal variations.

About 60 per cent of the Martian surface is reddish, though there are areas which show seasonal changes in colour. The planet's in the distant past — Lion feawhite polar caps are another con-

spicuous feature, shrinking in summer and expanding in winter. Mars is subject to vast, yellow dust storms which obliterate the

surface for weeks. The northern hemisphere is low and relatively smooth, in contrast to the southern half which is high and pockmarked with craters. Most of these are due to the impact of meteorites, but some are vol-

The largest of these dwarfs any of its terrestrial counterparts, being 600 km. wide and 25 km. high. Other features of the landscape are giant rift valleys. And at night temperatures can fall as low as minus 120 degrees centig-

Does any form of life exist on the planet? In 1975, the U.S. sent two unmanned space traft there to look for any pointers. But despite extensive investigations. the question remains unanswered. Although there is now no surface water, the signs are that there was

German designers lead in European fashion

By Carol J. Williams The Associated Press

DUESSELDORF, West Germany - Few of the rich and famous come to this city of heavy industry for the seasonal showings of its hot new designers.

But jet-setting royals and a discriminating clientele of commoners have applauded with their pocketbooks, if not their presence, turning Duesseldorf into a new European fashion

West Germany, better known for its car plants and breweries, is also the leading producer of fashion and textiles in Europe, and one of the biggest exporters of women's wear worldwide.

For years, style-conscious buyers have associated continental chic with the established conturiers of Paris and Milan, where famed fashion houses like Chanel and Armani turn out twice-yearly collections.

Now, with an expanding world market fo well-paid professional women and globe-trotting tourists, West German designers say they are upstaging their foreign rivals with the right mix of panache and pragmatism.

"German fashion has the same reputation as German food - it's actually good, but everyone thinks of it as bland and fattening," Herwig Zahm, head of

ONLY SE HAVE UNIQUE AND

COMPETATOR COMPETATOR

CHANAN SHEAM

VHSM: YOU, TAN TOO GLIVE MEED METERS OF PARE AND MEE SOURCES BANKERAFT BROOKIES

Mondí Apparel near Munich, joked between sales appointments at a recent fashion trade

That mest-and-potatoes image

is changing fast, as evidenced by the sharp rise in interest among foreign buyers for German-made clothing, shoes, cosmetics and jewellery aimed at the upper- to middle-income brackets. "Our exports are very high and

increasing each year, which shows that our reputation is growing," said Claudia Timm. spokeswoman for Duesseldorf's sprawling Igedo Fashion Market, which has given focus to design centres scattered throughout West Germany. Nearly a third of the 23 billion

marks (\$13 billion) in Wet German apparel manufactured last year was exported, and foregin sales account for an even larger share of output this year, according to the Cologne-based Women's Outwear Association.

Salamander shoes of Kornwestheim is Europe's largest producer of footwear. Klaus Steilmann's motto of "fashion for millions. not millionaires" has made him the continental king of contem-porary sportswear with nearly 1.2 billion marks (\$640 million) in annual sales.

The West Germans contend their attention to product quality and marketing savvy have won

them number one ranking in performance in Europe, if not in repute. They also appear to be concentrating on leisure, casual and office wear, while others seem to stress evening clothes. "The French have all the im-

age, but they don't have a product anymore," said Wolfgang Ley, president of Munich-based Escada, which expects to sell 750 million-marks (\$400 million) in exclusive apparel this year. "The designers create a cou-

produced under very famous labels is absolute junk.

Ley's Company, for which his Swedish-born wife Margaretha is the chief designer, posted a phenomenal 40 per cent sales increase in 1988 and has seen an even brisker pace so far this year.

"We design our own fabrics and our own colour stories," Ley pitched with a salesman's aplomb. "We make our own market and give it a direction. We don't wait around to see how the wind is blowing." Names like Escada, Mondi and

Tuzzi conjure up an image that is more Mediterranean than German, which is part of the strategy of those designing for an international audience.

Tel: 633418

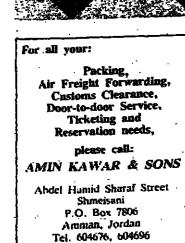
Mondi sells 400 million marks (\$213 million) in clothing each year and counts among its customers the Princess of Wales. She caused a run on the company's designer socks in 1985 after sporting them at a polo match, and still places regular orders for Mondi each season, including a burgundy, black and vanilla wardrobe for this fall.

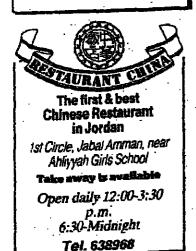
Jii Sander of Hamburg has captured another impressive corner of the upscale market with ture line, but the managers leave classic styles, subtle colours and it to any manufacturer to produce natural fabrics that pack well and a ready-to-wear line," he wear long enough to justify their asserted. "Some of what is being price tags. Sweaters costs upwards of \$300, dresses begin around \$500 and suits and coats run well over \$1,000.

"You can start with a few pieces and build up a basic wardrobe over the years," said Sander, a slender 45-year-old who still models for some of her advertisements. "That's much less costly than getting a lot of clothes and having no style."

Her clothes are produced in West Germany and shown exclusively at the fall and spring fashion fairs in Milan.

A mainly German group of designers has presented a collection for next spring called "campus-contemporary-casual." It focuses on tropical themes with yellows, greens, reds and browns in light natural fabrics.







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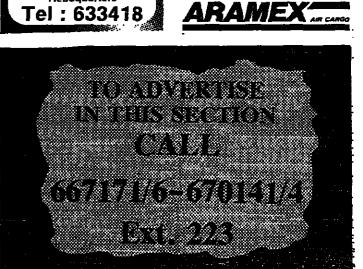




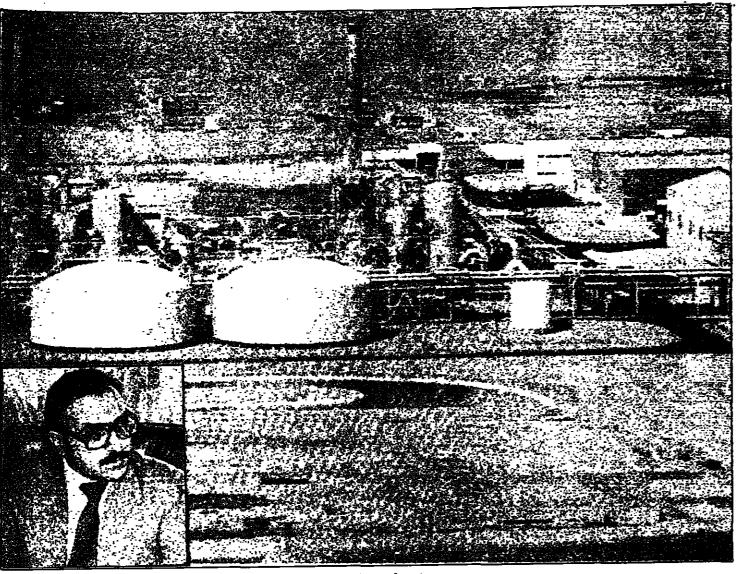












Jordan's fertiliser plant in Aqaba and JPMC director Wasef Azar (File photos)

Lowering price for Jordanian farmers

JPMC strengthens fertiliser plant

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) has decided to reduce the price of its fertilisers in a bid to help local farmers boost their agricultural output at the lowest possible cost.

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — the institute said. In March 1977

Imports accounted for more than and July 1977, imports surged to

half of U.S. petroleum consump- 51.8 per cent of total deliveries,

tion last month, surging past the while in May 1977 imports

The announcement was made by JPMC Director Wasef Azar who said that a tonne of aluminium phosphoring fertiliser will be sold at JD 100, down from JD 105. He said the international price for a tonne of this type of fertiliser is JD 150.

He added that the company is selling different types of liquid and solid fertilisers for use in large-scale agricultural produc-

50 per cent mark for the first time

in 12 years, the American Pet-

roleum Institute (API) reports.

the Middle East, the unstable

Middle East," said institute spokesman R.G. Ensz. "It

means dollars are leaving the

report found oil imports

accounted for 50.4 per cent of

domestic consumption in July, up

from 43.5 per cent in July 1988.

liveries of petroleum products

averaged just under 17 million barrels a day, while total imports

- crude oil plus petroleum pro-

ducts — averaged over 8.5 mil-

July's total was only the fourth

time ever that a monthly import

figure had exceeded 50 per cent.

lion barrels.

The report said domestic de-

The API's monthly statistical

country to pay for this oil.'

"A lot of this oil is coming from

tion or for domestic plants. According to Azar, the company's overall production of phosphate rose from 2.9 million tonnes in 1979 to 7.1 million in 1989 noting that the company produced nearly 58.3 million tonnes of phosphate over the past

JPMC's acquisition of the fertiliser company based in Aqaba in the middle of 1986 has enabled

reached 50.5 per cent.

offshore drilling.

New England.

William Sound.

Ensz said the new figures indi-

cate "We're growing more de-

pendent on foreign oil while Con-

gress is putting moratoria on

Legislation is moving through

Congress, he said, that would stop drilling for oil in Alaska and

off the coasts of California, west-

ern Florida, the mid-Atlantic and

The move toward the bans

comes after the Exxon Valdez

tanker spilled nearly 11 million

gallons of crude oil into the Pris-

tine waters of Alaska's Prince

more foreign oil means more tankers" in U.S. waters, Eusz

The growing traffic of oil tank-

ers, in turn, raises the potential

"What they're overlooking is

JPMC to make good financial returns and move ahead with plans for expansion, Azar said. He explained that the company's exports of fertilisers grew from

tonnes in 1989 as a result of this Thanks to a sound and flexible marketing strategy, Azar said,

118,000 tonnes in 1982 to 610,000

the company was able to increase its phosphate exports to international markets.

JPMC's phosphate exports in 1979 registered 2.7 million tonnes, rising to 6.4 million tonnes in

for another oil tanker spill, he

centage of oil imports for a full

year 47.7 per cent in 1977. For

the first seven months of this

year, imports averaged 46.2 per

cent of deliveries, compared with

Meanwhile, the United States'

trade deficit fell in June to its

lowest level in 4½ years, the

Commerce Department reported

Thursday, although analysts said

it happened largely because the

economy was weakening.
"The U.S. economy was slow-

ing and sucking in less imports," commented Howard Lewis, an

economist with the National

This caused the June deficit to

decline a sharp 19 per cent to \$8.2

billion — the lowest since \$6.8

billion in December 1984 - from-

a revised \$10.1 billion in May.

The May figure was originally

reported as \$10.2 billion.

Association of Manufacturers.

41.5 per cent for all of 1988.

The API said the highest per-

U.S. oil imports from Mideast surge

Azar estimated Jordan's exports of phosphate in 1989 to bring in a revenue of \$425 million, up from \$345 million in

Phosphate produced at the Ruseifa, Wadi Al Abiad, Al Hassa and Shidieh mines in Jordan are being transported to Aqaba for export through 600 trucks and the railway linking the mines with the port city, Azar noted.

At present, Azar said, the company is conducting studies and working out designs to establish vast fertiliser industries in cooperation with the Arab Potash

Exports rose 1.5 per cent to a

record \$30.9 billion in May.

fell 3.6 per cent to \$39.1 billion.

\$30 billion, a development Lewis

called highly encouraging but not

enough to reduce the nation's

staggering deficit sharply over the

long term.
"When you cut through all

these numbers, we're still head-

ing for a deficit (for all of 1989) in

the neighbourhood of \$110 bil-

That would be about an \$8

billion improvement over last

year's total deficit of \$118 billion,

but far less than the \$34 billion

reduction achieved last year from

the record \$152 billion deficit of

The Bush administration has

been encouraging the U.S. central bank, the Federal Reserve

Board (Fed), to let interest rates

fall to stimulate economic activ-

ity, but White House reaction to

lion," he said.

June was the fourth consecu-

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Arabs favour investing in Egypt

ABU DHABI (AP) - Egypt attracted most private Arab investment last year, according to a report issued by the Arab Investment Guarantee Organisation. The report estimated the total value of inter-Arab investments at \$232.43 million and said Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) followed as leading markets for such investment. The report said Arab investments in Egypt shot up by 63.7 per cent in 1988 over 1987, but did not say how much money that represented. The UAE, where the organisation is based, was the only country for which a precise investment figure was given: \$15.59 million. The report indicated that Arab investors favoured the banking sector which attracted 39.6 per cent of the total, followed by industry with 26.7 per cent, trade, construction and services with 13.6 per cent, tourism and real estate 12.3 per cent and agriculture, animal wealth and fishing with 7.9 per cent. It also said that the leading source of investment was the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council which accounted for 43 per cent of the total, followed by Iraq and the Levant countries which would include Syria and Lebanon.

Israeli jobless rate climbs to 9.5%

TEL AVIV (AP) — The central bureau of statistics has said that preliminary estimates for the April-June quarter show that unemployment has risen to a two-decade high of 9.5 per cent. That translates to about 150,000 people out of work, it said. The latest unemployment rate compared with 8.3 per cent in the January-March quarter and six per cent a year earlier. It was the highest since 9.9 per cent in the third quarter of 1967 in the depths of the 1965-67 recession. Unemployment in that recession peaked at 12.4 per cent in the first quarter of 1967. Labour ministry officials have predicted that the unemployment rate in Israel could exceed 10 per cent by year's end, even with special job programmes approved by the government.

Iran's non-oil exports increase

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — The official Islamic Republic News Agency has reported that Iran's non-oil exports totalled \$306

million in the four-month period between March and July, a 25 per cent increase over the same period in 1988. The customs office, which released the figures in Tehran, said hand-wowen carpets, pistachio nuts, pistachio kernels, and different types of hides topped the list of exports. The agency said office non-oil exports included dried and fresh fruits, vegenbles, copper bars. cathode and anode copper, and detergents.

Venezuela insists on 50% debt reduction

CARACAS (AP) - Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Penaz has said that Venezuela needs a 50 per cent reduction of the estimated 20.3 billion it owes to commercial banks, though banks have rejected his position. "We cannot say this or nothing." Perez said, "but the conclusion is that we must seek more or less this 50 per cent reduction because it is what we need." Venuzuela had insisted in preliminary conversations with its commercial creditors that it needs to cut its annual debt burden in half in order to meet its commitments and generate needed economic growth. But banking representatives late last month rejected that position, reportedly claiming Venezuela was in better shape to meet its debt payments than Mexico, the first country to reach an it with banks on debt reductions under a U.S. initiative. In January, Venezuela stopped paying capital on its \$33 billion debt, the fourth largest in the developing world, and stoppedinterest payments in February.

Top Bahraini bank boosts profit

NICOSIA (R) - The National Bank of Bahrain, the Gulf state's biggest domestic bank, said it made a net profit of 4.8 million dinars (\$12.7 million) for the first half of 1989, a 14 per cent rise on the same period in 1988. In an unaudited statement, the bank attributed the increase to a lower level of provisions. Provisions for the first half of 1989 totalled 2.5 million dinars (\$6.63 million) compared to 3.4 million (\$9 million) during the same period of 1988. Loans and advances stood at 156 million dinars (\$413.7 million), a 44 per cent reduction on those for the first half of 1988, the statement said, adding that the bank would continue to concentrate on short term money market activities and adopt conservative lending policies. Total assets stood at 671 million dinars (1.78 billion) in 1989 against 674 million (\$1.79 billion).

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

950.5 310.0 360.1

Amman Financial Market

weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the

Sectoral trading:

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on

the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

1_5653/63

2.2085/95

1.6885/95

6.6225/75

1407/1408

143.10/20

7.1525/75

7.6200/50

366.50/367:00

6.6375/6425

40.96/41.01

1.1790/1800

1.9590/9600

Pound Sterlin Deutscheman Swiss franc

previous week:

Daily average

Total volume

Total shares

Industrial

Financial

No. of contracts

Share price index

No. of companies

One Sterling One U.S. dollar

One ounce of gold

Price movement (rise)

(decline)

(stable)

Thursday, August 17, 1989 Central Bank official rates

Dutch guider Swedish crown

Aug. 13-16

JD 954,770

2,210,831

2,501

JD 3,819,082

JD 2,838,936

JD 608,649

(74.3%)

(15.9%)

(7.5%)

(2.3%)

127.5

12

U.S. dollars

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

Swiss francs

July 17-19

JD 2,382,827

JD 7,148,483

JD .5,006,991

JD 1,812,397

(70.0%)

(25.4%)

(3.6%)

(1.0%)

127.5

16

12

2,937,538

Italian lira (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10)

Congress gives Menem

BUENOS AIRES (R) - Argen- lic Works and Services Minister tina's congress has approved a Roberto Dromi, author of the law giving Peronist President Carlos Menem, in office less than six weeks, a free hand to privatise state-owned companies that are

Some of the companies involved were nationalised by party founder Juan Peron nearly 40

Tha law would allow the government to reduce a bloated public sector deficit, officially estimated at 14 per cent of gross domestic product and widely seen as the root of Argentina's high inflation

will overhaul the state and we will transfer assets to the private sector from the public sector." Pub-

Thursday's report was low key.

Mosbacher said June trade fi-

gures were encouraging and

"increasing expertise by Amer-

ican exporters in sales to foreign

White House spokesman Mar-

lin Fitzwater said the drop in the

June: deficit was "certainly good

news for the country."

White House Budget Director
Richard Darman said in a televi-

sion interview last weekend that

the Fed was too restrictive in its

credit policies and signalled the

White House was ready to blame

the independent agency if the

Cynthia Latta, senior financial

economist with Dri-McGraw-Hill

noted the average of the May and

June trade deficits was \$9.1 bil-

economy turned sour.

Commerce Secretary Robert

panies, dismiss high-ranking public servants and absorb the company's deficits to expedite their privatisation. It also allows the government to deregulate sectors of the eco-

nomy like the oil and telecommunications industries, which have been tightly controlled by the state.

By the same law the government will establish an emergency

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lion and said that was probably a truer picture of performance.

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green light to privatise

losing money.

"With this law in our hands we

congress, allows the central government to directly intervene in the running of state-owned com-

bill, told the daily La Nacion in

of the national telephone com-

pany, the railway system. Aero-

lineas Argentina airline, port

facilities, radio and television sta-

tions, and grain silos. It also plans

to sell parts of oil, coal, petroche-

mical, and mining firms which it

either owns outright or has a

Recent official figures show state companies would lose \$5.5

billion this year, roughly half the

estimated public sector deficit.

The law, which was passed after three weeks of hagging in

controlling interest.

Menem plans to sell all or parts

employment plan.

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — Stocks closed lower in mixed trade as profit-takers took advantage of recent gains. The All Ordinaries index fell 9.8

TOKYO - The market took a breather after lurching to record highs this week, closing mixed in very thin trade. The Nikkei fell 26.97 to close at 35,063.14. HONG KONG — The Hang Seng index fell more than 100 points

during the morning on rumours — later denied from Peking — of a power struggle in the Chinese leadership. The index finished 43.82 lower at 2,573.16. SINGAPORE — The Straits Times industrial index climbed 5.93

to a post-crash high of 1,381.49 but fallers outnumbered gainers BOMBAY - Rumours of an early national election and the

run-up to a series of new issues send share prices broadly down. Tata Steel fell 31.25 rupees to 1,237.50. FRANKFURT - German share prices drifted above their lower

opening levels, ending the day virtually unchanged from Thursday in thin, directionless trade. The DAX index ended at 1,575.77. Just 0.39 points below Thursday's close. ZURICH - Swiss shares bounced back from early lows in lively

trade, closing mixed in a narrow range. The all-share Swiss performance index hardly changed at 1,204.1 (1,204.3). PARIS - French share prices slipped in quiet trade as hopes of

lower interest rates at home and in the United States took a knock from French inflation data and news of a narrower U.S. trade deficit in June, dealers said.

LONDON - Prices remained firm after Wall Street recovered from earlier weakness. At 1501 GMT the FTSE index was up 12.5 points at 2,372.5.

NEW YORK - U.S. stocks edged lower undermined by a weak bond market and a U.S. consumer price report viewed unfavourably by investors, analysts said. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.00 to 2,678.

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A. B in Jabai Amman (between 3rd & 4th Circles). For more information call 641443, 642351, 667862.

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(Arabic)

3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45

2- LIKE FATHER LIKE

SON

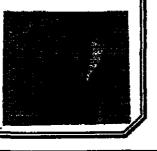
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10:30



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PLAZA

THE BEACH GIRLS

12:30 - 3:30 - 5 6:30 - 8:30 - 10:30



SPORTS IN BRIEF

KINGDOM TAKES UNDISPUTED LEAD: Roger Kingdom of the United States, the world record-holder in the men's 110 metre high hurdles, has taken the undisputed lead in the men's overall standings of the Mobil outdoor track and field grand prix. The American's record clocking of 12.92 seconds in Wednesday's Weltklasse meet at Zurich, Switzerland, enabled him to break a three-way tie for the lead. He has a total of 51 Grand Prix points in 13 meets. Meanwhile, Paula Ivan of Romania, the 1988 women's overall winner, moved closer to becoming the first woman to win two overall Grand Prix titles. Her 4:00.26 victory in the 1,500 metres gave her the lead with 49 points. Sandra Farmer-Patrick of the United States and Merlene Ottey of Jamaica, both of whom are undefeated in Grand Prix events this season, are tied for second place with 45 points each. Ottey won the 100 metres in 11.07 and Farmer-Patrick took the 400-metre intermediate hurdles in 54.44. Said Acuita of Morocco, the two-time and defending men's overall champion, won the 5,000 in 13:24.45 and moved into a three-way tie for second among the men with 45 points: Also at 45 points are Robson Da Silva of Brazil, who won the 200 in a 1989 world-leading 20.04, and pole vaulter Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union, who did not compete at Zurich.

MEET FOR HEART TRANSPLANT PATIENTS OPENS Heart transplant patients from seven European nations gathered in Grossel Wednesday for a programme of track, field and other sports events meant to demonstrate they don't need to avoid strennou activity, an organiser said. Events in the first European heart transplant games include a 50-metre (yard) and 10-metre dash, a 400-metre relay, and runs over 3,000 and 5,000 metres, according to organiser Peter Hansen. Also on schedule in the games are high and broad jump events, as well as shot-putting and tournaments in tennis, badminton, volleyball and table tennis, Hansen said. 'We want to show we can function just the same as any other person," said the 42-year-old Hansen, who underwent a heart transplant operation in 1985 and is playing in the Dutch volleyball team. "What matters is that we complete. Winning's not the issue," Hansen told the Associated Press. (AP)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GORES AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ◆AKQ1075 ♥543 ♦A ◆AK6 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South

1 7 Pass Pass ? What do you bid now? A.— We would not fault you greatly if you elected to bid four spades. However, if partner has as little as three spades, a singleton heart and the queen of clubs you are virtually a laydown for a small slam. We would opt for a double followed by a jump to four spades to show our powerhouse and slam interest.

Q.2-Both vulnerable, as South you 4763 ♥AKQ105 ♦AQ 4A87 The bidding has proceeded: West North East

Pass 2 4 Pass

What do you bid now? A .- You have an awkward hand. A jump to three hearts overstresses the quality of your suit, and four clubs on three-card support is unthink-able. Since North's two-over-one response promises a rebid, dampen your ardor for a moment and settle for a raise to three clubs. You can

Q_3—Both vuinerable, as South you ♥AQ1663 ♦ 72 4AQ98 **±63** The bidding has proceeded:

West

Pass

1 🗸

North

Pass

1 🛊

make a move toward slam later.

Pass 2 ♦ Pass What do you bid now? A .- Partner's bid is forcing, so don't even consider passing. The only two bids that come into consideration are two no trump and two hearts. Since a lead through your

suits won't prove fatal, we prefer

two hearts, leaving partner the op-

where the hand belongs.

Q.4-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠765 ♥Q5 ♦J762 ♠8763 The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 0 Dhl Pass ? What action do you take?

A .- The two things you can't do is pass—you need to add the K-Q to your diamond holding for that—or bid one no trump, which promises some 7-10 points. We know some players who would bid one spade, but partner has asked for our longest suit and we would duly respond with two clubs.

Q.5-Neither vulnerable, as South AAK6 ♥K93 ◊AQ854 #83 What is your opening bid?

A.—There are those who believe you may not open one no trump with a low doubleton. However, that's contrary to modern practice. If you don't open one no trump, you present yourself with an inso-hable rebid problem no matter what partner responds.

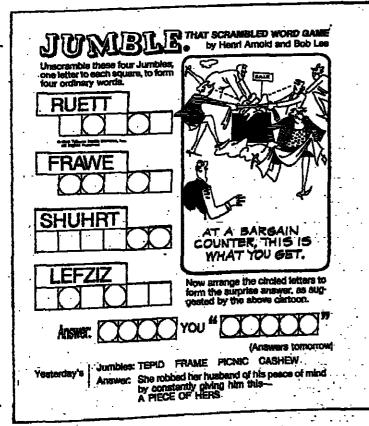
O.6-As South, vulnerable, you **♦AK83 - ∇QJ8 ♦EJ4 ◆863** The bidding has proceeded: South West North Pass 1 4 Pass

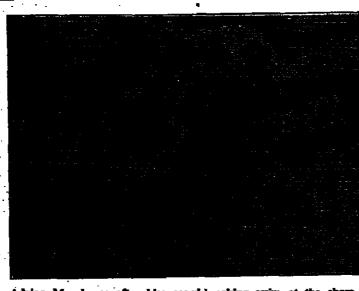
What do you bid now?

A.—Don't shilly-shally Partner has a minimum, balanced opening bid and so do you. If you even considered anything other than three no trump, you see something in this hand that has escaped us.



"My boss tried to sharpen my mind ...by stuffing it into the pencil sharpener!"





Adrian Moorhouse after his record-breaking swim at the championshipe on Tuesday.

Oman's Fanja likely to take GCC title

Falaij scored a hat-trick Wednes- Nafeesa, who slipped in a deceitday and steered Kuwaiti cham- ful shot in the 72nd and stole pion Al-Arabi to a 4-2 win against another in the 87th after Kuwaiti Coca Cola-GCC club cham- ped the ball.

Al-Falaij, who started the the five-team contest with five minute rebound from the Al- games. Hilal goalie Saleh Shanooni and a pass from defender Amer

After the teams crossed, Al-Falaij put Al-Arabi 3-0 ahead in downed favourite Al-Wasl of the the 60th, grabbing the ball in a Arabi skipper Sami Hasas headed year's title. into the crossbar.

Hasss missed a penalty kick in the 45th after Amber Said was felled in the box by Al-Hilal defender Khalid Abu Nahyan. Al-Arabi substitute Abdullah Mansour, who came on field in the 45th, scored his team's fourth goal in the 67th.

Al-Hilal pulled back two goals Al-Arabi of Kuwait.

MANAMA (AP) - Faraj Al- through substitute Khalid Al-Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal in the keeper Abdul Raza Abbas drop-A-Arabi tops the standings in

tournament on the bench in the points from four games, followed first match against Bahrain's by Muharraq and Al-Wasl with Muharraq, slammed home a 14th four points each from three

chipped in another in the 20th off Fanja downs favourites Al-Wasl

Oman's Fanja Thursday United Arab Emirates 3-0 boostgoalmouth scramble after Al- ing its chances of winning this

> But Fanja's hopes hinge on the outcome of the contest's final match between Muharraq of Bahrain and Al-Hilal of Saudi

> Victory will give the Bahraini team its first title, while a draw will force a three-way play-off between Fanja, Muharraq and

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1989

YOUR HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Cerroll Righter institute

cautious about to whom and what relaxation. you commit yourself. When your judgment is cloudy, it is best to appraise the situation carefully. An active imagination is best used start. It is a favorable time to interest with siblings.

cralively.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 18) An overactive imagination can lead to difficulties when you do not see yourself clearly. Defenses may go up when challenged.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)

You could find bargains on a shopping spree. Projects for the home and family are featured. Plan the attacks: Trust in the future and

close to you. Your popularity is interest. A short nap will refresh back on track.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) back on track.
MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to

anxiety.
LEO (Jul. 22 to Ang. 21) Helping others to acquire self-confidence

will increase your own. Today you imagination and be attracted to can teach others. Project your spiritual, metaphysical, or religious

vIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You may have to justify your involvement in an unusual alliance. Do not get so wrapped up in yourself that others are left on the sidelines.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan a great day and refuse to let yourself get "down in the dumps!"

Endeavors. Your son or daughter will be generous, charming, and may have to justify your self to exagnet it is or her feelings and act impulsively.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your yourself get "down in the dumps!"

E 1989. McNaucht Synd

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Be Find some time for fun and

family are featured. Plan the attacks: Trust in the future and uture with your mete. concentrate on kindness.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You can communicate more clearly You can translate your ideas into and are sentimental towards those cash if you get busy before you lose

Jul. 21) If you are feeling sensitive Relax and get your mind off your to people, it is best to work alone work. You need a pause to refresh and avoid associated stress and your creative juices. Romance can

play a role.
If Your Child Is Born Today He or she will have a vivid deavors. Your son or daughter

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you! © 1989, McNaught Synd

THE Daily Crossword by Donald B. Grost



32 Concernes 33 Upotu's city 34 Soviet river 39 Makee a bet 40 Settle enew 42 in a frenzy

European swimming championships

Lamberti takes third gold

BONN (R) — Italy's Giorgio Lamberti, a world record and two gold medals already in his possession, laid claim to a third European title, while Olympic star Kristin Otto headed for her first with pace-setting final qualifying times Thursday.

seconds to lead qualifiers into the evening's men's 100 metres freestyle final ahead of 1985 European champion Stephan Caron of France, who won the final heat in

Lamberti, who broke the 200 freestyle world record Tuesday and shared Italy's 4x200 freestyle relay triumph Wednesday, put Caron's European 100 freestyle record of 49.35 under distinct

Caron twice lowered the European mark in relay lead-off swims at the last European cham-

Lamberti clocked 49.48 pionships in Strasbourg in 1987, having relinquished his individual title to East German Sven Lodziewski the previous day.

"I've no idea what time I'm going to swim. Tonight I'll be satisfied if I can repeat this time," Lamberti, 20, said. "I'm surprised by my time in

the 100. I usually have difficulty getting going on the first lap."
Title-holder Otto, won the last 100 metres backstroke heat on her first appearance in the Roemerbad pool, clocking 1:03.03 to establish an edge of 0.18 seconds over Hungary's

Egerszegi and Otto's East German team-mate Anja Eichhorst won their respective heats in 1:03.21 and 1:03.22, promising an interesting battle for gold in the

> Otto who won six Olympic. titles with three different strokes, is concentrating purely on backstroke this time.

Krisztina Egerszegi, silver medal-list behind the East German at

last September's Seoul Olympics.

Defending champion Sergei Zabolotnov of the Soviet Union failed to reach the men's 200 metres backstroke final, finishing fourth in his heat and 10th overall, more than three seconds slower than top qualifier Tino Weber of West Germany.

derbach of France (2:02.62) and the 2:02.87 of Italy's Stefano Battistelli, bronze medallist behind Hungarian Tamas Darnyi in

Wednesday's 400 individual medley. Darnyi, who has been troubled by a high temperature and sore throat in Bonn, did not take his appointed place in the 200 back-

stroke heats. Olympic bronze medallist Anke Moehring sounded an overwhelming challenge in the women's 400 freestyle, swimming two seconds faster than her

nearest rival in the heats. Moehring clocked 4:11.66, outpacing opening heat winner Orietta Patron of Italy (4:13.89) and defending champion Heike Friedrich and Norway's Irene Weber set the pace with a time Dalby who dead-heated their of 2:01.82, ahead of David Hol-qualifier in 4:13.97.

Becker and Wilander power on in ATP title

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Topseeded Boris Becker overpowered Vijay Amritraj, even serving one ball under-handed, and No. 3 Mats Wilander beat fellow Swede Niclas Kroon as both advanced Thursday to the fourth round of the ATP championship. Becker, a 21-year-old West German, eliminated the 35-year-

old Amritraj, 6-1, 6-1, while Wilander was a 6-4, 6-2 winner. Wilander said the score didn't indicate the difficulty of his match.

"It was quite hard to play each other because we're very good many was third with Cedric friends," Wilander said of Kroon. Mathy of Belgium coming in

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Ekimov wins back world cycling title, plans to go pro

LYON (AP) — The Soviet Union's Viatcheslav Ekimov returned to the top of the amateur individual pursuit competition Wednesday by winning the title at the world cycling championships. But he said he looks for the

professional ranks soon, a route Soviet athletes are turning to in increasing numbers. In the only other final of the day, Italy's Claudio Golinelli won

the pro match sprint crown.

In the pursuit final, Ekimov was timed in 4 minutes, 35.58 seconds for the four-kilometre (2.5 mile) distance in easily defeating East Germany's Jens Lehmann who finished in 4:42.17.

Steffen Blochwitz of East Ger-

Ekimov had won the title in 1985 and 1986 but lost the 1987 crown to countryman Guintaoutas Umaras, who went on to the finish line in the second race. take the Olympic title in Seoul.

al, a road that Ekimov says he is going to turn to. "I have had a number of proposals from teams from France, national champion Connie Young the United States, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain. I don't

want to say which one it will be, Ekimov said. "But it is certain I will turn professional and concentrate on the road races." In the pro event Golinelli was the losing finalist in last year's championship but was declassed a month after the championships

after failing a drug test. This year he dominated Japan's

straight of the best-of-three final. Golinelli even waved his arms in victory 30 metres (yards) before In other competition Wednes-Umaras has turned profession- day, three of the women's match sprint quarterfinals had Soviets

beating Americans. Three-time world and six-time of the U.S. went to the third race before losing to Soviet Galina

Young had won the world titles in from 1982 to 1984 but had taken third in the last two championships as well as the Olympics. This year she failed to make the

Galina Tcareva beat Jane Eickhoff in two straight.



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Peanuts







Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp









Workers return to work in Estonia but after meeting

Russians suspend strike

MOSCOW (R) — Striking Russian workers in work against us," he said, refer-Soviet Estonia went back to work Friday after agreeing at a late-night meeting to suspend a 10-day old protest against a new election law, a strike committee spokesman said.

"We decided to suspend the strike," the spokesman told Reuters from the Estonian capital. Tallinn, "Enterprises all over the republic went back to work this

However, the strike committee spokesman said the stoppage could resume if Estonian authorities failed to respect an order from Moscow to come up with new proposals to amend the election law by Oct. 1.

"Republican authorities did not actually give us guarantees that our demands would be met, but we nevertheless decided to believe them." he said.

"But the strike will resume on a far larger scale if they do not come to any compromise with us by Oct. 1," he added.

The law, passed by the Estonian parliament Aug. 8, deprives recent Russian immigrants to the republic of the chance of voting in local elections by setting a minimum residence requirement of

However, Estonian officials

Rocard

visits

south

Pacific

French Prime Minister Michel

Rocard opened a South Pacific

visit Friday, making clear France

intends to retain its influence in

the region, help island economies

grow and continue nuclear

Rocard acknowledged that re-

lations between France and Au-

stralia have been strained over

the nuclear tests on Mururoa

Atoll and other issues including

France's handling of New Cale-

But he said the two countries

"France for its part regards

Australia as a key partner which

with it is important to maintain

first-rate relations," he told re-

porters shortly after his arrival. "We want a permanent dialogue

After opening talks with Prime

Minister Bob Hawke, the leaders

issued a joint statement express-

ing concerns about driftnet

fishing, global warming, the des-

truction of the rain forests and

In his subsequent news confer-

ence, Rocard said the French

government has reduced its nuc-

lear tests from eight to six each

year because of promising de-

velopments in superpower dis-

ings that these tests arise in

countries of the region," he said.

But he added that world peace

for the past 40 years was "not unconnected" to the nuclear de-

that people be really scared of

He called the French-sanc-

tioned bombing of the environ-mentalists ship Rainbow Warrior

in New Zealand in 1985 a "tragic

mistake" and used the news con-

'It was an immense,

tremendous mistake. And the

French republic has publicly

apologised to New Zealand. And as a French citizen I would again

like to reiterate (it) to the world

Rocard was met outside the

National Press Club by anti-nuc-

lear protesters who threw yellow

cakes at him intended as symbols

of radioactive material. The

cakes fell off the mark. Four of

approximately 20 demonstrators were detained. Rocard will travel

to New Caledonia, Fiji, Wallis

and Futuna and Tahiti during his

tour. He said a major purpose of

his visit was to encourage the

development of the island.

community," Rocard said.

having a war," he said.

ference to apologise.

The only chance of peace is

"France understands the feel-

protecting Antarctica.

armament talks.

terrence.

donia's political unrest.

now are fully reconciled.

with Canberra."

testing.

have said they have no intention of changing the law, which they see as an important part of the drive by their once-independent republic to win greater control

Over its own affairs. The Kremlin says the election law is in conflict with the Soviet constitution, which promises equal voting rights to all Soviet

The National Praesidium Wednesday declared the Estonian law unconstitutional in a decision approved by President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Russians and other non-ethnic Estonians, who make up about 40 per cent of the republic's population of 1.6 million, complained that about 80,000 of them would be disenfranchised.

Strike committee member Maral Chekatovksv said that the strike had already accomplished many of its goals. "Moscow and the whole Soviet Union and the world started to pay attention to

The strike "was starting to

ring to the growing economic difficulties the strike caused in the tiny Baltic republic.

The government newspaper Izvestia Thursday quoted Rail-way Minister Nikolai Konarev as saving that strike had idled 3,000 railcars in Estonia.

He said more than 700 of the cars had been left on railway lines, blocking dozens of trains from proceeding.

In Tallinn alone, where all stations that load and unload freight have been paralysed by the walkout, 34 trains carrying perishable foodstuffs and other goods are waiting to be discharged, Konarey said.

The decision to resume work was taken at a meeting late Thursday following a meeting between strikers' representatives and a parliamentary delegation from Moscow.

Strikers also had talks with the republic's leadership, the strike committee said.

Members of the Estonian Popular Front, a mass movement pressing for greater autonomy for Estonia, have alleged the strikes were encouraged by Moscow in an attempt to put a brake on the Estonian drive for autonomy.

In another area threatened by nationalist labor unrest, Russian

workers in Moldavia staged a two-hour warning strike Wednesday. They were protesting a proposed law that would make Moldavian the republic's official lan-

Nationality proposals

The Soviet leadership, alarmed by the nationalist turmoil bubbling across the country, has proposed "radical transformations in the Soviet federation" to address the needs of its different nationalities.

A Communist Party policy document issued Thursday said solving demands for greater antonomy, ending ethnic strife and "ensuring free development of spiritual life of all peoples of the Soviet Union" were key fac-tors of President Mikhail Gorbachev's reform programme.

"The main condition of stability and successful development of the Soviet federation is the optimum correlation between the rights of union republics and of the Soviet Union as a whole," it

The document, quoted by the official TASS news agency, was short on detail. But it said the rights of autonomous republics and regions - minority group subdivisions of the 15 ethnic republics - should be substantially



NAIROBI (Agencies) — Ethiopia's government and rebels in Eritrea province have taken their first serious steps to end a 28-year-old civil war by accepting former U.S. President Jimmy

Carter's offer to host peace talks. Carter's office in Atlanta, Georgia, said Thursday he would mediate in talks between the pro-Soviet government of President Mengistu Jaile Mariam and the rebel Eritrean People's Libera-tion Front (EPLF) beginning Sept. 7.

The war for Eritrea's independence has killed hundreds of thousands and has contributed to recurrent famine in the arid and mountainous former Italian colony. The conflict is costing the government more than half its

*Carter has already been doing a lot of shuttle diplomacy," said one East African diplomat.

"But not that both sides are actually going to sit down and tional mediation of meet — that's a bit of a surprise wars and conflicts. so soon and very positive," he

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S.

government study released

Thursday shows that an anti-

AIDS drug delays the onset of

the killer disease in individuals

infected by the AIDS virus but

who have not started showing

additional significant milestone in

the battle to change AIDS from a

Health and Human Services

Secretary Louis Sullivan told a

AZT in infected by asymptomatic

individuals had been eagerly awa-

ited by researchers and acquired

immune deficiency syndrome

Sullivan made the announce-

ment on the same day a report by

The results of trials of the drug

fatal disease to a treatable one."

Today we are witnessing an

symptoms.

news conference.

(AIDS) patients.

Carter said there would be no preconditions on the talks which he described as a first round expected to "lay the groundwork for more sustained negotiations."

In the past, the Ethiopian government has said it would never agree to independence for Eritrea while the EPLF has said independence was not negotiable.

Diplomats said Carter, who has met Mengistu and EPLF leaders three times this year already, may have been exploring some middle "Carter has a track record, he

is one of the few people around

who has got experience in mediating this kind of negotiation," said one diplomat by telephone from Addis Ababa. His mediation helped bring about the Camp David accord between Israel and Egypt in 1979 and since leaving the White House in 1981, Carter has

attempted to set up an international mediation centre for civil Civil wars, like the Eritrean

AZT delays AIDS in

asymptomatic cases

conflict, fall outside the peace-

the U.S. Centres for Disease

Control stated that the number of

AIDS cases in the country passed

100,000 this month and the dis-

ease had begun attacking the

More cases were being re-

ported each year and more cases

involved intravenous drug users.

the report said. It said that an

increasingly larger proportion of the victims were likely to be

women and to come from small

had died because of AIDS.

The report said 59,000 people

U.S. officials estimated that in

America alone, more than

400,000 people could benefit from the new findings of the tests

on AZT, which is made by Lon-don-based Wellcome PLC.

Just two weeks ago U.S. and

country's rural heartland.

towns in rural areas.

keeping activities of the United Nations.

Dayle powell, director of the Conflict Resolution Programme at the Carter Presidential Centre in Atlanta, said the first round of talks in September was likely to focus on logistic rather than substantive issues.

Diplomats, meanwhile, say that although the rebels have been winning the war for control of the strategic province, the Ethiopian government may be hoping that the prospects of peace talks may persuade some of the EPLF's backers in the Middle East to cut back their support.

They said the Soviet Union has aiready been putting much pressure on Mengistu to come to the bargaining table, while the con-tinuing economic crisis and last May's attempted coup have made the Ethiopian leader's position less secure.

Ethiopia may also be hoping that the peace process will help endangers armistice — U.N. improve its cool relations with the United States

Wellcome officials disclosed that

in another study AZT had been

found to slow the progress of

AIDS in patients with early

symptoms of the disease, which

breaks down the body's ability to

However, Thursday's

announcement was unexpected.

The study which began about two years ago with 3,200 patients,

was not supposed to end for some

time. A portion of the study was

discontinued Wednesday on the

The monitors concluded it

would be unethical to continue us-

ing placebos, or sugar pills, in

that part of the study looking at

patients with depressed counts of

a key disease-fighting white blood

cell known as a T4 cell.

advice of safety monitors.

fight infection.



DUBLIN (R) — The Irish Re- breaking point," the guerrilla publican Army (IRA) vowed to stretch Britain to breaking point and keep on attacking British army bases across Europe.

In a message Thursday to mark the 20th anniversary of British troops being sent into Northern Ireland, a top IRA guerrilla warned: "There will be no ceasefire or truces until Britain declares its intent to withdraw and

leave our people in peace. "Our tactics remain fluid and we will continue to stretch and re-stretch British resources to

SEOUL (AP) — The United Nations Command (UNC) said

Friday a border crossing by two South Korean dissidents return-

ing from North Kores put in

question the North's willingness

to adhere to an armistice agree-

ment that has kept peace on the

"Most critically, the North Ko-

rean's unilateral decision to allow

the transit puts in question their

adherence to the armistice itself,"

A UNC spokesman said the

statement was intended to clarify

the command's position on the

case. He did not say what specific

action the command would take

against North Korea in connec-

The U.S.-led UNC charged

that North Korea endangered the

implementation of the 1953 Ko-

rean armistice agreement by

allowing two South Korean dissi-

dents to cross the border without

A dissident woman student, Im

Su-Kyong, accompanied by a Ro-

tion with the incident.

proper authorisation.

the UNC said in a statement.

Korean Peninsula since 1953.

spokesman told Republican News, a leading mouthpiece for the hardline nationalist cause, in an interview. He said Britain's portrayal of

the conflict as "indigenous" to Northern Ireland had forced the IRA to change tactics, "for example, going abroad to inflict higher casualties on British military forces."

"We will, through inflicting continued and unsustainable losses, break the will of the British government to stay in our coun-

man Catholic priest, Moon Gyu-Hyun, returned home through

Panmunjom Tuesday after visit-

ing North Korea without author-

isation from the South Korean

There were immediately de-

tained by South Korean author-

South Korea accused North

Korea of committing an "inten-tional provocation" by letting the

two dissidents cross the border.

cern about a series of North

Korean political demonstrations

that preceded the crossing. UNC

officials charged that North

Korea brought hundreds of peo-

ple to the sensitive neutral zone

for anti-U.S., anti-South Korea

demonstrations in July and Au-

"The North deliberately

altered the rules, thus introducing

uncertainty and raising tensions

in a sensitive area where the

potential for confrontation and

violence is always high," it said.

The border crossing raised the

The UNC also expressed con-

Korean border crossing

try," he said.
The IRA promised a "long, bloody summer" to mark the anniversary of the August 14, 1969 deployment of British troops in Northern Ireland.

But the anniversary passed off Monday without a single death in the sectarian and political conflict that has now taken almost 2.800 lives in Northern Ireland.

The IRA ended a year-long luli in continental Europe in June when a British barracks in Osnabrueck, West Germany was bombed.

question of whether the armistice

agreement which ended the Ko-

rean war in 1953 is effectively in

North Korea denied that the

dissidents' transit was illegal, con-

tending that the armistice agree-

ment applies only to foreigners or

to people wishing to enter the

territory under control of the

opposite side. As South Koreans.

it is natural for Ms. Im and

Moon to go back to their residence area," it said.

The UNC rejected the North

Korean position, saying that no person, military or civilian, can

be permitted to cross the border

unless specifically authorised to

do so by the military armistice

commission that supervises the

implementation of the armistice

The UNC, a signatory to the

agreement, said many Koreans

from both the North and South,

have been authorised in the past

to cross the border after agree-

ments were reached between the

agreement.

force.

A masked protester prepares to throw a firebomb at a bus in Belfast in violence marking the

WASHINGTON (AP) - A

after disarming him.

TVs, waterbeds

government has ordered an investigation into newspaper allega-tions that some well-connected prison inmates have been enjoying television sets, water-beds and other luxuries in their cells. Deputy Home Affairs Minister Megat Ayub told reporters the government also was investigating allegations that some prisoners have been attending to family business while serving pirson sentences.

Delhi's 'red light' children emerge from darkness

By Raju Gopalakrishnan The Associated Press

NEW DELHI - The bedraggled, keen-eyed children on Gaston Bastion (G.B.) road grow up fast.

By the time they are three or four, they know what goes on in the dingy, mirror-lined apartments that are their homes by day and their mothers' brothels by night. Most are drawn into flesh trade by their early teens because they find no alternative.

But now, some are finding a way out of the capital's bestknown red-light district. Government foster homes, previously off-limits to prostitutes' children, are opening their doors. The women who work on G.B. road say the new programme offers the best hope of preventing their sons from becoming pimps and their daughters from becoming prostitutes.

"If the children live with their mothers, there is no escape. They all get involved, said Nimmi Bai, the matronly, betel-nut-chewing madame of one of the 80 brothels on G.B.

"The boys pimp for their mothers and sisters. The girls... well, it depends how old they are." Last October, New Delhi's

city government and a graying businessman put together the alternative. Prostitutes' children now can be admitted to homes where they receive food, clothes and education up to college level.

New Delhi's Social Welfare Department runs the homes. Khairati Lal Bhola, a 61-yearold motor-parts dealer turned social worker, encourages prostitutes to enroll their children.

"The major breakthrough was when I convinced the government they did not need the father's name for admitting the children," Bhola said. "Persuading the prostitutes was easy. They hate bringing up their children in a brothel. And they can visit their children once а топіћ." Earlier, schools denied

admission to prostitutes' children because most of them didn't know who their fathers were. Admission forms for all government institutions require the name of the applicant's father. "At least 75 children have

been admitted to the homes," Bhola said. "It's only a beginning. There are 4,000 children in the brothels on G.B. road. Few of the 3,500 prostitutes here use contraceptives."

He said Nimmi Bai, who is 52, is one of two or three brothel keepers who encourage adoptions. "I know how horrible it can

be. Life here is a bazaar," Nimmi Bai said, interrupting Bhola. "We are branded. Why should our children be?" Nimmi Bai, who said she was in the "profession" earlier, said that in the 1960s she paid a family 300 rupees a month -then worth about \$40 - to raise her son and daughter away from the brothels on G.B. road.

She said her children are now adults with respectable jobs, and she sometimes visits

Foster home advantages But these informal adop-

tions often mean the children never see their mothers again, and there is no guarantee they will be treated well. Adopting families usually discourage visits and sometimes use the children as servants, Nimmi Bai said.

Bhola said the foster homes have another advantage. The prostitutes may be able to save the money they would have

spent for their children's upbringing. "The foster homes are free," he said. "And these women really need money after they are no longer attrac-

Most prostitutes on G.B. road earn a total of about 30 rupces (\$1.80) from three our four clients each night, he said. Each client pays 25 rupees (\$1.50), but he said the brothel owner, the pimp and the police take hefty cuts.

Prostitution itself is not illegal in India, but laws ban soliciting and "organised prostitution" where anyone except the prostitute receives money. Nevertheless, organised prostitution exists openly. Bhola said it is prevalent in more than 800 cities and towns.

A police officer responsible for the G.B. road area said it is difficult to prove organised prostitution. Asked if police took bribes from brothel owners, the officer said, "is there any place in India they do not?" He spoke on condition of

anonymity.

Bhola said many adoptions of prostinues' children stall when pimps or madames play on the mothers' emotions. "That's easy, because for these women, their children are their only emotional sustenance,"

"But some are courageous. Like her," he said, pointing to a slim, dark woman sitting next to Nimmi Bai on one of the brothel's rope cots.

Pyari, who doesn't know her second name, said she has been on G.B. road for the past 12 years, since she came here. from Calcutta when she was about 14. She has given up a son and a daughter to the foster home.

"I miss them," she said. "But I don't want them here. This sorrow is better than that

Navy rescues Tinkerball

LONDON (R) - Farmer Lyndon Wilton called in a British navy belicopter when his cow Tinkerbell fell 60 metres down a cliff to a Seawashed Ledge. "Itwas one of our more difficult cow-lifts," said Lieutenant Dong Secley, one of the crew who flow mother-to-be Tinkerbell to safe ty. Tinkerbell took the plunge at Rame Head, in the southeastern English county of Cornwall, on Monday. Fishermen aported her at the chiff bottom and alcried Wilton who climbed down and spent the night with her on the ledge. Coastguards could not get a boat near enough to rescue Tinkerbell Toesday and, as the tide came in, they called the navy. A veterinary surgeon helped Wilton lead Trakerbell into the water so the helicopter had room to manoeuvre, then tranquillised the animal. A crea member was winched down, put a net round Tinkerbeil and attached a cable. The believoter lifted her back to the cliftop, none the worse for her brief

Sniffing cocaine for 55 years

LONDON (R) — An 80-year-old British woman has sniffed cocaine under doctor's orders almost every day for the last 55 years and suffered no ill effects, according to a medical publication. The British Journal of Addiction said in its latest edition that the woman, first given cocaine for a nose irritation that troubled her when horse riding, had sniffed her way through about 5.5 kg of the drug - worth about £300,000 at current street prices. For the last 20 years, her habit has been paid for by the national health service. Psychiatrists Robert Brown and Robert Middlefell, based in the northwestern english city of Liverpool, said cocaine solution had been supplied for the last 20 years under regulations for treatment of addicts. The woman, who was not named, had drawn large quantities of the drug from doctors in France during holidays.

Duck impaled on White House fence

homeless man who impaled the body of a duck on the White House fence was charged with cruelty to animals and arraigned on the charges Tuesday, a Secret Service spokesman said. A spokesman said Christopher E. Jackson, 33, may be considered for psychiatric evaluation. The duck was the mate of a drake that spent time flying between Lafayette Park opposite the White House and a nearby fountain. Eyewitnesses told the Washington Times that Jackson identified himself as "Chris from New Hampshire," picked up the duck Monday and crossed Pennsylvania Avenue to the northern gate of the White House. He then pulled a knife from his pocket and slit the fowl's throat before impaling its remains on the White House fence, according to the Secret Service. Four Secret Service agents then handcuffed Jackson and took him into custody

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